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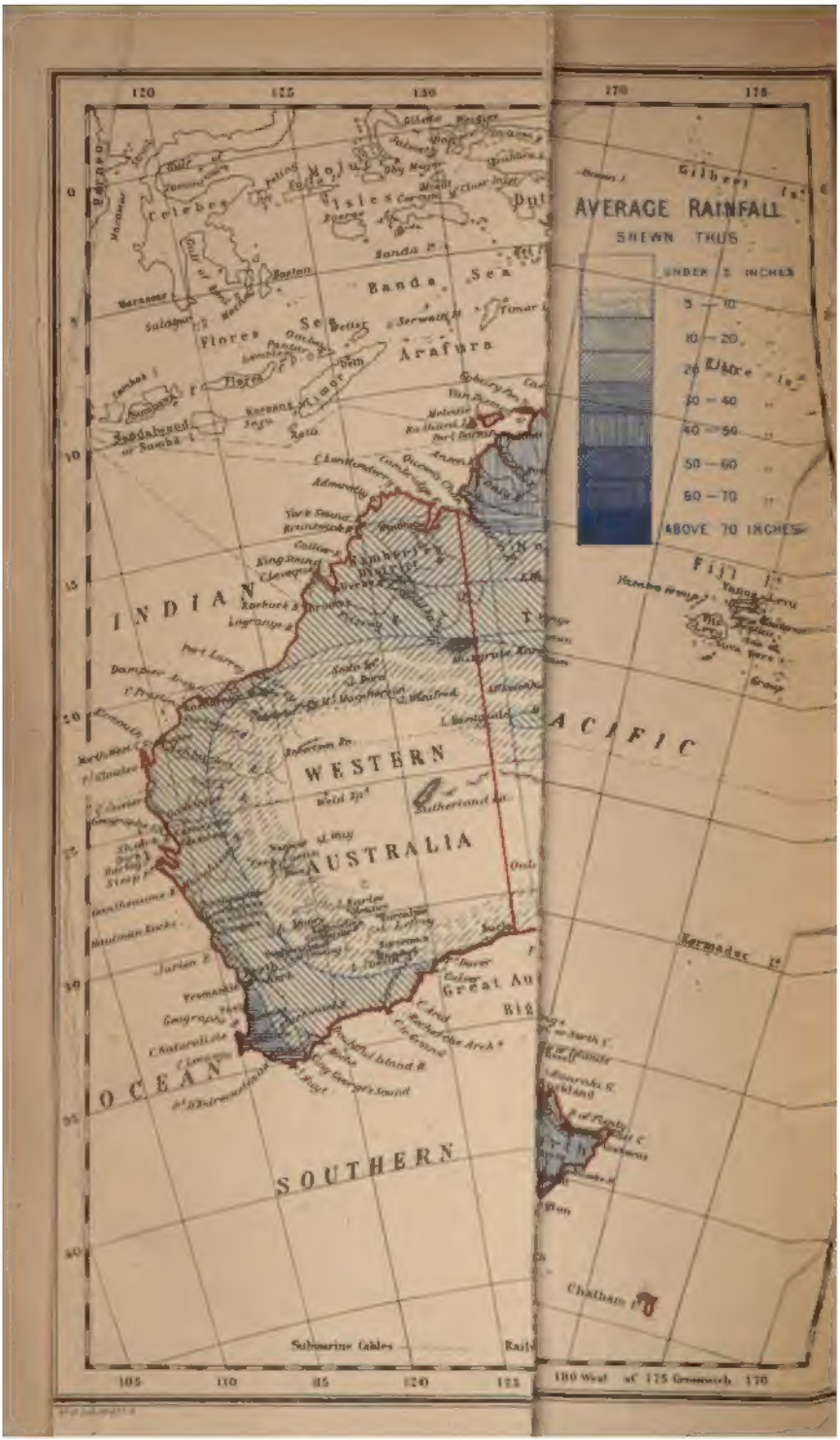
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STATISTICAL ACCOUNT

OF THE

SEVEN COLONIES OF AUSTRALASIA,

1899-1900,

BY

T. A. COGHLAN

(*Honorary Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society*),

STATISTICIAN OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

EIGHTH ISSUE.

Sydney:

WILLIAM APPLEGATE GULLICK, GOVERNMENT PRINTER.

1900.

199562

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Map of Australasia .. .. *Facing Title-page*

PREFACE.

THE general plan adopted in previous issues has been followed on the present occasion, but as this edition is published on the eve of the establishment of the Australian Commonwealth, it has been necessary to make several important changes in the arrangement of the information to accord with the new condition of things which the Commonwealth establishes. I have also thought it desirable to insert a brief historical sketch of each State and of New Zealand, and to enlarge the scope of the chapters which deal with matters now transferred to the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth.

In all cases the figures have been revised to accord with the latest information, and as a rule they refer either to the year 1899 or to the year 1900; in some instances, however, owing to the undue delay in publishing the official statistics, I have been compelled to use figures relating to 1898, but the instances where this was necessary were neither many nor important.

Care has been taken to correct errors which have escaped notice in previous editions, and to keep this edition free from them. Should any such have remained undetected, as in the multitude of references is quite possible, it would be deemed a favour if their nature and position were pointed out.

T. A. COGHLAN.

Statistician's Office,
Sydney, 17th December, 1900.

AREAS AND BOUNDARIES.

THE Australasian colonies comprise the continent of Australia, the adjacent island of Tasmania, and the islands of New Zealand. The group was formerly subdivided politically into seven colonies; but from the 1st January, 1901, it will comprise the Commonwealth of Australia, consisting of six States and the separate colony of New Zealand, the respective areas of which are as follows:

State.	Area in acres.	Area in square miles.
New South Wales	198,848,000	310,700
Victoria	56,245,760	87,884
Queensland	427,838,080	668,497
South Australia	578,361,600	903,690
Western Australia	624,588,800	975,920
Tasmania	16,778,100	26,215
Commonwealth of Australia	1,902,660,240	2,972,906
New Zealand	66,861,440	104,471
Australasia	1,969,521,680	3,077,377

The British Empire, exclusive of territories under protectorates and spheres of influence, extends over an area of 9,093,865 square miles, so that more than one-third of its area lies within the limits of Australia and New Zealand. Australasia is more than twenty-six times as large as the United Kingdom; more than fifteen times as large as France; more than half as large again as Russia in Europe; and almost equal in extent to the continent of Europe or to the United States of America.

The mainland of Australia lies between 10° 39′ and 39° 11½′ south latitude, and the meridians of 113° 5′ and 153° 16′ east longitude. Its greatest length is 2,400 miles from east to west, and its greatest breadth, 1,971 miles from north to south. Its area may be approximately stated at 2,946,691 square miles, and its coast line at 8,850 miles, equal to 1 mile to each 333 square miles of land—the smallest proportion of coast shown by any of the continents. Tasmania, to the south of the mainland, is separated from Victoria by Bass Straits, about 150 miles wide. New Zealand is opposite the south-eastern coast of Australia, the width of ocean intervening, known as the Tasman Sea, being about 1,100 miles.

New South Wales lies principally between the 29th and 36th parallels of south latitude, and between the 141st and 153rd meridians of east longitude. The length of the state, from Point Danger on the north to Cape Howe on the south, is 680 miles. From east to west, along the 29th parallel, the breadth is 760 miles; while diagonally, from the south west corner where the Murray passes into South Australia to Point Danger, the length reaches 850 miles. The seaboard extends over 700 miles. There are no islands of importance on the coast of New South Wales. Lord Howe Island, some 400 miles north-east of Sydney, forms a portion of the colony. The Imperial Government handed over the administration of Norfolk Island to New South Wales in 1897, and in that year a Resident Magistrate was appointed as representative of the New South Wales Government.

Victoria is situated between the 34th and 39th parallels of south latitude, and the 141st and 150th meridians of east longitude. The dividing line between Victoria and South Australia was fixed as the 141st meridian of east longitude, but through an error in survey the present recognised boundary falls about 1½ mile west of the 141st meridian. The mistake tells against South Australia, and the authorities of that colony have been demanding for many years a re-adjustment of territory, but there seems little prospect of a disturbance of the present arrangement. The extreme length of Victoria from east to west is 420 miles, and the breadth 250 miles. The coast line is about 600 miles.

Queensland extends from the 11th to the 29th parallel of south latitude, and from the 138th to the 153rd meridian of east longitude. The boundary line separating the colony from South Australia extends northwards along the 141st meridian of east longitude as far as the 26th parallel of south latitude, thence along the 138th meridian of east longitude to the seaboard. This line also requires re-adjustment, the present reputed boundary being in all probability too far eastward. The greatest length from north to south is 1,300 miles, and the greatest breadth is 800 miles. The coast line is about 2,550 miles. The coast of Queensland in some parts is studded with islands. The largest are Stradbroke and Moreton on the south-east coast; while Thursday Island, on the far north coast, is an important place of call, and has been strongly fortified as one of the lines of defence for the colonies of the eastern seaboard.

The island of New Guinea lies close to the northern extremity of Queensland, being separated from the mainland by Torres Straits. It is occupied by Dutch, English, and German colonists. The British colony of New Guinea embraces all that group of islands lying within the 141st and 155th meridians of east longitude, and the 5th and 12th parallels of south latitude. The government is vested in an Administrator and an Executive Council; and towards the expenses of government the three colonies on the eastern seaboard of Australia contribute each £5,000 annually. By an Act passed in 1887 Queensland

engaged for ten years to hold itself primarily responsible for the whole interest of this subsidy. The area of British New Guinea is estimated at 90,000 square miles, and the native population at 350,000.

South Australia extends from the 11th to the 38th parallel of south latitude, and from the 129th to the 141st meridian of east longitude. The province of South Australia, properly so called, lies between the 26th and 38th parallels of south latitude, and the 141st and 129th meridians of east longitude; the Northern Territory is bounded by the 26th and 11th parallels of south latitude, and the 129th and 138th meridians of east longitude. The greatest length of the colony from north to south is 1,850 miles, and the greatest breadth is 650 miles, with a seaboard of 2,000 miles, of which about 900 miles are washed by the Indian Ocean, the Arafura Sea, and the waters of the Gulf of Carpentaria. The most important islands belonging to the colony are Kangaroo Island on the south coast, 85 miles long and 50 broad, Melville Island, off Port Darwin, on the northern coast, Bathurst Island, separated from the last mentioned by Apsley Straits, and Groote Island, in the Gulf of Carpentaria. A stockade was erected by Captain Bremer on Melville Island in 1824, but was abandoned in 1829.

Western Australia consists of the country between the 14th and 35th parallels of south latitude, and the 113th and 129th meridians of east longitude. The greatest length north and south is 1,450 miles, and the greatest breadth from east to west is 850 miles. The coast line is about 4,000 miles.

Tasmania is an island situated about 150 miles south of Victoria, from which it is separated by Bass Straits. It lies between 40° 53' and 43° 39' south latitude, and the meridians of 144° 39' and 148° 24' east longitude. Its greatest length from north to south is 210 miles, and its greatest breadth from east to west is 200 miles. There are several small islands which belong to the colony. Flinders' Island, in Bass Straits, has an area of 13,000 acres; and King's Island, the chief of the north-west group, contains 272,000 acres. Including the adjacent islands, the area of Tasmania is 26,215 square miles.

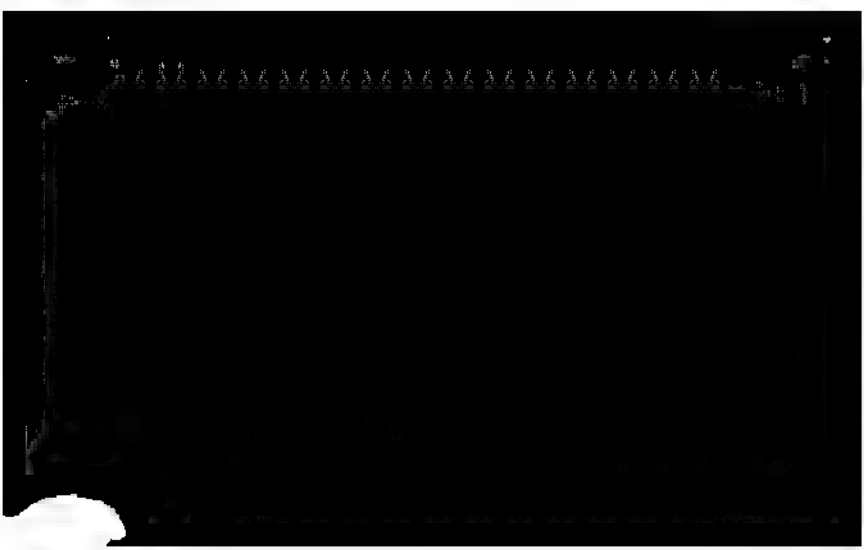
New Zealand lies to the east of Australia, its nearest point to the mainland being Cape Maria van Diemen, which is about 1,100 miles from Sugarloaf Point, in New South Wales. New Zealand and its dependencies lie between the 33rd and 53rd parallels of south latitude, and between 166° 30' east longitude and 173° west longitude. The waters known as the Tasman Sea separate the colony from the continent of Australia.

The North Island, or New Ulster, has a length of about 515 miles, with a breadth of about 250 miles. Its area is estimated at 44,467 square miles, and its coast line at 2,200 miles. Wellington, the seat of Government, is at the southern extremity of this island. The South or, as it is also called, the Middle Island or New Munster, has a length of about 525 miles by a breadth of about 180 miles. Its area is 58,525 square miles, and its coast line measures 2,000 miles. Stewart

Island, or New Leinster, lies off the southern extremity of South Island, and has an area of 665 square miles; its greatest length is 30 miles by a breadth of 25 miles.

In 1887 a proclamation was made declaring the Kermadec Islands, lying between the 29th and 32nd parallels of south latitude, and the 177th and 180th meridians of west longitude, part of the colony of New Zealand. A protectorate is exercised by the Imperial Government over the Cook Islands or Hervey Group. The British Resident is appointed on the recommendation of the New Zealand Government, which also defrays the cost of administration.

Including the Chatham Islands, the Auckland Islands, the Campbell Islands, the Bounty Islands, and many others which are dependent, the total area of the colony of New Zealand is estimated at 104,471 square miles.



CLIMATE.

THE Tropic of Capricorn divides Australia into two parts. Of these, the northern or inter-tropical portion contains 1,145,000 square miles, comprising half of Queensland, the Northern Territory of South Australia, and the north-western divisions of Western Australia. The whole of New South Wales, Victoria, New Zealand, Tasmania, and South Australia proper, half of Queensland, and more than half of Western Australia, comprising 1,932,000 square miles, are without the tropics. In a region so extensive, very great varieties of climate are naturally to be expected, but it may be stated as a general law that the climate of Australasia is milder than that of corresponding lands in the Northern Hemisphere. During July, which is the coldest month in southern latitudes, one half of Australasia has a mean temperature ranging from 40 to 64°, and the other half from 64° to 80°. The following are the areas subject to the various average temperatures during the month referred to: -

Temperature Fahr	Area in sq. miles.
35 — 40°	300
40° — 45	39,700
45 — 50°	88,000
50° — 55°	617,800
55° — 60°	681,800
60 — 65	834,400
65° — 70	515,000
70° — 75°	275,900
75° — 80°	24,500

The temperature during December ranges from 50° to above 95° Fahr., half of Australasia having a mean temperature below 83°. Dividing the areas into zones of average summer temperature, the following are the areas which would fall to each:—

Temperature Fahr	Area in sq. miles.
50 — 55°	300
55 — 60	66,300
60° — 65°	111,300
65° — 70	74,300
70° — 75°	362,300
75° — 80	439,200
80° — 85°	736,600
85° — 90	570,600
90° — 95	584,100
95° and over	135,400

Judging from the figures just given, it must be conceded that a considerable area of the continent is not adapted for colonisation by European races. The region with a mean summer temperature in excess of 95° Fahr. is the interior of the Northern Territory of South Australia north of

the 20th parallel; and the whole of the country, excepting the seaboard, lying between the meridians of 120° and 140° and north of the 25th parallel, has a mean temperature in excess of 90° Fahr.

Climatically, as well as geographically, New South Wales is divided into three marked divisions. The coastal region, which lies between the parallels of 28° and 37° south latitude, has an average summer temperature ranging from 78° in the north to 67° in the south, with a winter temperature of from 59° to 52°. Taking the district generally, the difference between the mean summer and mean winter temperature may be set down as averaging not more than 20°, a range smaller than is found in most other parts of the world. The famed resorts on the Mediterranean seaboard bear no comparison with the Pacific slopes of New South Wales, either for natural salubrity or for the comparative mildness of the summer and winter.

Sydney, situated as it is midway between the extreme points of the colony, in latitude 33° 51′ S., has a mean temperature of 62·9°, corresponding with that of Barcelona, the great maritime city of Spain, and of Toulon, in France; the former being in latitude 41° 22′ N., and the latter in 13° 7′ N. At Sydney the mean summer temperature is 71°, and that of winter 54°. The range is thus 17° Fahr. At Naples, where the mean temperature for the year is about the same as at Sydney, the summer temperature reaches a mean of 74·4°, and the mean of winter is [illegible], with a range of 26·8°. Thus the summer is warmer, and the winter much colder, than at Sydney. The highest temperature in the shade experienced in Sydney was 108·5°, and the lowest winter temperature [illegible], giving a range of 72·6°. At Naples the range has been [illegible], the winter minimum falling sometimes below the freezing point. The mean temperature of Sydney for a long series of years was spring 6[illegible], summer 71°, autumn 64°, and winter 54°.

Passing from the coast to the table-land, a distinct climatic region is [illegible]

healthy. The town of Bourke may be taken as an example. Seated in the midst of the great plain of the interior, it illustrates peculiarly well the defects as well as the excellences of the climate of the whole region. Bourke has exactly the same latitude as Cairo, yet its mean summer temperature is 1·3° less, and its mean annual temperature 4° less than that of the Egyptian city. New Orleans also lies on the same parallel, but the American city is 4° hotter in summer. As regards winter temperature, Bourke leaves little to be desired. The mean winter reading of the thermometer is 54·7°, and accompanied as this is by clear skies and an absence of snow, the season is both refreshing and enjoyable.

The rainfall of New South Wales ranges from an annual average of 64 inches at Port Macquarie, on the northern coast, and Kuandra, in the Monaro district, to 11 inches at Wueanma, in the Trans-Darling country. The coastal districts average about 50 inches of rain per annum; on the table-land the mean rainfall is 30 inches, but in the western interior it is as low as 18 inches. The average rainfall of Sydney during forty years was 49·5 inches, while during 1890 a fall of 75·8 inches was recorded.

The climate of Victoria does not differ greatly from that of New South Wales, the heat, however, is generally less intense in summer and the cold greater in winter. Melbourne, which stands in latitude 37° 50′ S., has a mean temperature of 57·3°, and therefore corresponds with Bathurst in New South Wales, Washington in the United States, Madrid, Lisbon, and Messina. The difference between summer and winter is, however, less at Melbourne than at any of the places mentioned. The mean temperature is 6° less than that of Sydney and 7° less than that of Adelaide—the result of a long series of observations being:—Spring, 57°, summer, 65·3°; autumn, 58·7°, winter, 49·2°. The highest recorded temperature in the shade at Melbourne was 110·7°, and the lowest, 27°.

Ballarat, the second city of Victoria, about 100 miles west from Melbourne, and situated at a height of about 1,400 feet above sea-level, has a minimum temperature of 29°, and a maximum of 104·5°, the average yearly mean being 54·1°. Bendigo, which is about 100 miles north of Melbourne, and 700 feet above the level of the sea, has a rather higher average temperature, ranging from a minimum of 31·2° to a maximum of 106·4°, the average yearly mean being 59·4°. At Wilson's Promontory, the most southerly point of Australia, the minimum heat is 38·6°, and the maximum 96·4°, the average yearly mean being 56·7°.

During the year 1899 the rainfall at Melbourne amounted to 28·87 inches, the highest total during the last ten years, while for a long series of years it averaged 25·58 inches, with an average of 131 days during the year on which rain fell. At Echuca, during 1899, 14·33 inches fell, and 43·34 at Portland. At Wilson's Promontory the rainfall was 42·63 inches.

As about one-half of the colony of Queensland lies within the tropics, it is but natural to expect that the climate should be very warm. The temperature, however, has a daily range less than that of other countries under the same isothermal lines. This circumstance is due to the sea-breezes, which blow with great regularity and temper what would otherwise be an excessive heat. The hot winds which prevail during the summer in some of the other colonies are unknown in Queensland. Of course, in a territory of such large extent there are many varieties of climate, and the heat is greater along the coast than on the elevated lands of the interior. In the northern parts of the colony the high temperature is very trying to persons of European descent.

The mean temperature at Brisbane, during December, January, and February, is about 76°, while during the months of June, July, and August it averages about 60°. Brisbane, however, is situated near the extreme southern end of the colony, and its average temperature is considerably less than that of many of the towns farther north. Thus the winter in Rockhampton averages nearly 65°, while the summer heat rises almost to 85°; and at Townsville and Normanton the average temperature is still higher.

The average rainfall of Queensland is high, especially along the northern coast, where it ranges from 60 to 70 inches per annum. At Brisbane 50·01 inches is the average of thirty-five years, and even on the plains of the interior from 20 to 30 inches usually fall every year. During 1898, 60·06 inches of rain fell in Brisbane, the number of wet days being 131.

South Australia, extending as it does over about 26 degrees of latitude, naturally presents considerable variations of climate. The southern portions have a climate greatly resembling that of the coast of Italy. The coldest months are June, July, and August, during which the temperature is very agreeable, averaging for a series of years 53·6°, 51·7°, and 54° for those months respectively. On the plains slight frosts occasionally occur, and ice is sometimes seen on the highlands. The summer is the only really disagreeable portion of the year. The sun at that season has great power, and the temperature frequently reaches 100° in the shade, with hot winds blowing from the interior. The weather on the whole is remarkably dry. At Adelaide there are on an average 120 rainy days per annum; during the last sixty years the mean rainfall has been 20·88 inches per annum, while farther north the quantity recorded was considerably less. The country is naturally very healthful, and in evidence of this it may be mentioned that no great epidemic has ever visited the colony.

The climate of the Northern Territory of South Australia is extremely hot, except on the elevated table-lands. Altogether, the temperature of this part of the colony is very similar to that of Northern Queensland, and the climate is equally unfavourable to Europeans. It is a fact worthy of notice that the malarial fevers which are so troublesome to the pioneers of the northern parts of Australia almost, and in some cases

entirely, disappear after the land has been settled and consolidated by stock. The rainfall in the extreme north, especially in January and February, is exceedingly heavy. The average yearly rainfall in the coast districts is about 63 inches.

Western Australia has practically only two seasons—the winter, or wet season, which commences in April and ends in October; and the summer, or dry season, which comprises the remainder of the year. During the wet season frequent and heavy rains fall, and thunderstorms with sharp showers occur in the summer. The extremes of drought and flood experienced in the other colonies are almost unknown in Western Australia, but during the summer months the north-west coast is sometimes visited by hurricanes of great violence. In the southern and early settled parts of the colony the mean temperature is about 64°, but in the more northern portions the heat is excessive, though the dryness of the atmosphere makes it preferable to most tropical climates. At Perth, in 1898, the mean temperature was 65·5°, the maximum being 106·9° and the minimum 37·4°; and the rainfall for the same year was 32·04 inches, rain having fallen on 109 days. Observations extending over a period of twenty two years show the average rainfall at Perth as 33 inches. Although the heat is very great during three months of the year, the nights and mornings are almost always cool, and camping out is not attended with danger owing to there being so little moisture in the air.

Tasmania, protected as it is by its geographical position and by the tempering influence of the surrounding ocean from extremes of heat or cold, enjoys an exceedingly genial climate. The greater part of the island in the settled regions is characterised by a mild and equable temperature, ranging between the extremes of 20° to 44° in winter and 78° to 96° in summer. Spring and autumn are the most pleasant seasons of the year, especially the latter, when the mean reading of the thermometer is about 57°. The mean temperature of Hobart for the last fifty years has been 55°. The richness of its flora is an evidence of the genial nature of the climate of the colony, while the purity of its atmosphere is proved by the small proportion of zymotic diseases recorded in the bills of mortality. The hot winds of the continent of Australia are felt in the northern parts of the island only, and even there they are greatly reduced in temperature by their passage across Bass Straits. Generally speaking, all through the summer months there are alternate land and sea breezes which tend to cool the atmosphere even in the hottest days. The climate is fresh and invigorating, and is much recommended as a restorative for those whose constitutions have been enfeebled by residence in hotter climes. Large numbers of tourists in search of health visit the island every summer. The rainfall, except in the mountain districts, is moderate and regular. The average downfall at Hobart for a long series of years was 25·10 inches with 167 wet days per annum. In 1898 rain fell on 164 days, the total recorded for the year being 20·40 inches.

The climate of New Zealand is in some respects similar to that of Tasmania, but the changes of weather and temperature are often very

sudden. As the colony extends over more than 10 degrees of latitude, its climate is very varied. That of the North Island is somewhat similar to the climate of Rome, Montpellier, and Milan, while the Middle or South Island more resembles Jersey, in the Channel Islands. The mean annual temperature of the North Island is 57°, and of the Middle Island 52°, while the yearly average of the whole colony for each season is as follows: Spring, 55°; summer, 63°; autumn, 57°, and winter, 48°. The mean temperature of New Zealand is lower than that of similar latitudes in Europe, though higher than is experienced in America on corresponding parallels. The mean temperature of the South or Middle Island is less by about 5° than that of the North Island. Snow very seldom lies on the ground at the sea level in the North Island, and only occasionally in the South Island. The summits of Ruapehu, the highest mountain in the North Island, and of the great mountain chain in the South Island, are covered with perpetual snow from an altitude of 7,500 feet above the level of the sea. Ice is occasionally seen in winter-time in all parts of New Zealand. The whole colony is subject to strong breezes, which frequently culminate in gales. The rainfall during 1898 varied very much at the several observing stations. At Auckland it amounted to 40·77 inches, while at Wellington there was a fall of 41·96 inches. At Rotorua, in the North Island, 49·98 inches fell during the year, and at New Plymouth, on the west coast, 49·06 inches were recorded. At Dunedin, on the east coast of the Middle Island, the rainfall amounted to 34·14 inches, while at Hokitika, on the west coast, no less than 124 inches fell during the year. Periods of lasting drought are almost unknown in the colony: indeed, it is very seldom that the records of any station show the lapse of a whole month without rain. The number of days in the year on which rain fell varied from 101 at Lincoln to 204 at the Chatham Islands.

The following table shows the distribution of rainfall area in Australasia:—

Rainfall	Rainfall area in square miles.			
	Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.	Australasia.
Under 10 inches ...	1,219,600	. .	.. .. .	1,219,600
10 to 20 ,, .	843,100	9,440	. . .	852,540
20 to 30 ,, ..	399,900	.	69,650	469,550
30 to 40 ,, .	225,700	8,380	17,410	251,490
40 to 50 ,, ..	140,300	8,380	17,410	166,090
50 to 60 ,, ..	47,800	. . .	.	47,800
60 to 70 ,,	56,100	. .	. .	56,100
Above 70 ,, .	14,100	. . .	. . .	14,100
Total . .	2,946,700	26,200	104,470	3,077,370

NEW SOUTH WALES.

ALTHOUGH the existence of the "Great Southern Continent" had been proved by previous explorers of various nationalities many years before Captain Cook re-discovered the Eastern coast in 1770, it was not until the return of this navigator from his famous cruise in the "Endeavour" that the attention of the British Government was directed towards the possibility of founding a settlement in the new land. The loss of the North American colonies by their successful rebellion made it an imperative necessity that some fresh outlet should be found for the disposal of the criminal population; but, besides this, there seems ample proof that the idea of colonial expansion was at that time strong in the minds of the British people.

In 1778 Viscount Sydney, then Secretary of State for the Colonies, resolved on the foundation of a colony in that portion of the Great Southern Continent which Cook had rather inaptly termed New South Wales. In May the "First Fleet," which was to convey the expedition, was got together. It comprised the 20 gun frigate "Sirius," with its tender the "Supply"; the storeships "Golden Grove," "Fishburn," and "Borrodale," and six transports the "Alexander," "Scarborough," "Lady Penrhyn," "Prince of Wales," "Friendship," and "Charlotte." The largest of these vessels measured not more than 150 tons, whilst the smallest was not more than 270 tons. The six transports had on board 564 male and 19 female convicts; 178 marines, officers and men, 5 naval men a few mechanics, 40 women, wives of the marines and 13 children. The command of the expedition was entrusted to Captain Phillip, R.N., to whom was also granted a commission appointing him Governor and Captain General of New South Wales. Captain Hunter, of the "Sirius," was second in command, while Mr. David Collins accompanied the expedition in the capacity of Judge-Advocate.

In January, 1788, the fleet arrived in Botany Bay. A very short examination proved that the place was ill suited for the settlement about to be founded. The soil was everywhere poor, while there was a dearth of fresh water, and in addition to these disadvantages to settlers, the depth of water was not sufficient to admit of ships of fair tonnage anchoring near the shore. The land northward appeared to promise better accommodations, and Captain Phillip, taking with him three boats, proceeded in that direction, and after going a few miles, he found himself to the north-east of Port Jackson, marked by Cook as a boat-harbour. He entered the inlet, and found to his great surprise that he had discovered

"Cowpastures," near Camden. These animals were the descendants of cattle that had strayed away from the settlement some years previously, and besides being a welcome addition to the available food supply, proved the adaptability of the colony for stock rusing purposes.

During Hunter's term of administration the river named after him was discovered, and the existence of workable seams of coal in its vicinity was demonstrated, and led to the foundation of the city of Newcastle. Bass and Flinders carefully examined and charted the coast line to the south of Sydney, and the former proved the insularity of Tasmania by his discovery of Bass Strait. Governor Hunter left New South Wales in 1800, the population at the time being slightly in excess of 6,000. His successor was Philip Gidley King, who had been previously appointed to the control of the branch settlement at Norfolk Island.

The new Governor soon found himself embroiled in serious trouble with the New South Wales Corps. This body had been specially recruited for service in the colony, as it was impossible to find officers of regular army regiments in England who would willingly accept virtual banishment to a far distant land to act as a sort of prison guard over convicts. Some of those who were induced to accept commissions by grants of land in the colony had never before seen service in the army, while the general idea of most of the officers seemed to be to amass fortunes as quickly as possible and return to England. It was found that the rum trade offered the speediest means to this end. Not only did the officers of the Corps import large quantities, which they retailed at enormous profits, but some of them, in defiance of Government orders, went so far as to set up stills on their own account. The Governor resolutely set his face against the traffic, and refused to allow the landing of thousands of gallons of wine and spirits. The strong stand taken by the Governor roused the bitterest opposition amongst the officers, who found themselves likely to lose their chief source of emolument by reason of his action.

Governor King had also to face serious trouble in the shape of a mutiny amongst the convicts. It was customary to set the most refractory of the prisoners to work on the roads in chain gangs, while those who merited better treatment by consistent good conduct were assigned as servants to the free settlers. On one occasion over 300 convicts were working in chain gangs on the road at Castle Hill, between Parramatta and Windsor, under a very small force of soldiers. The prisoners overpowered the guard, and freeing themselves from their chains, marched towards the Hawkesbury, where they counted on the assistance of the men employed near Windsor. The insurgents, however, were speedily routed by Major Johnston, who had a force of only 20 men with him. The ringleaders were hanged, and the others were allowed to return to work under strict surveillance.

The initiation of wool-growing, one of the most important events in Australian history, took place during King's administration. Captain John Macarthur of the New South Wales Corps had received a grant

of 10,000 acres of land on the Cowpasture River, near Camden, and with praiseworthy enterprise secured a small flock of Spanish merinos and commenced the experiments in wool-growing which eventually resulted in material gain not only to the originator of the idea, but also to Australia generally.

After six years of constant labour King was glad to give up the reins of office, and was succeeded in the administration of the colony by Captain Bligh. The new Governor, who assumed office in 1806, had previously won for himself a reputation for coolness and daring by his noteworthy voyage after the mutiny of the "Bounty," and subsequently at the bombardment of Copenhagen in 1798 had gained the publicly expressed encomiums of Lord Nelson. The Imperial Authorities therefore thought that their choice had fallen on the right man to correct the abuses which King had been powerless to deal with, especially in regard to the traffic in rum. The Governor immediately on his arrival issued a stringent proclamation forbidding the bartering of strong liquors in exchange for commodities, and applying the injunction to all persons without distinction. This drastic action was viewed with the deepest resentment by a large section of the colonists, who, in spite of all authority, maintained the illicit trade throughout the whole of Bligh's term of administration. The affair which resulted in the deposition of Bligh was not directly connected with his dispute with the officers on the traffic in rum, but there can be no doubt but that Bligh's interference with the lucrative business which the officers carried on led to his downfall. Macarthur had received a summons from Atkins, the Judge-Advocate, calling upon him to answer a complaint preferred by the crew of a vessel of which he was part owner for non-payment of wages. Macarthur did not obey the order, but sent a letter defining his position in the matter. A warrant was therefore issued for his arrest, and he was brought before the Judge-Advocate and a jury of six officers of the New South Wales Corps—such being the composition of the Supreme Court at the time. Macarthur objected to the Judge-Advocate's presiding at the trial on the ground that Atkins bore him personal ill will, and the six officers sustained his objection. Bligh refused to remove the Judge-Advocate, as indeed he had not the power to do, Atkins having been appointed by the Imperial Government.

The Governor now ordered the six officers to appear before him to justify their conduct, but they refused to obey. He also sent several messages to the Commandant, Major Johnston, requesting him to confer with him respecting the conduct of his subordinates, but that officer pleaded ill health as his excuse for not complying with the Governor's request. Nevertheless, on the same evening Major Johnston arrived in Barrack Square, paraded his regiment, and marched in full military array to Government House, where he placed Governor Bligh under confinement. Johnston then assumed control of affairs, and dismissed the Judge-Advocate and other prominent officials, appointing deputies in their stead.

Lieutenant-Colonel Foveaux shortly afterwards superseded Major Johnston, and he in turn was succeeded by Colonel Paterson, who came over from Tasmania to administer the government. This was over twelve months after Bligh's deposition, and although Paterson in a general way approved of Johnston's action, he nevertheless set the deposed Governor at liberty on condition that he proceeded home in a vessel then about to sail. Bligh promised to sail direct to England, but when he was at liberty he refused to be bound by a promise given under compulsion, and remained off the coast of Tasmania. When the Imperial Authorities became apprised of the turn affairs had taken in New South Wales they immediately appointed Lieutenant-General Macquarie to assume control of the colony. He was directed to reinstate Bligh for one day, and despatch Major Johnston under close arrest to England. He was unable, of course, to carry out his instructions with reference to Bligh, but Johnston was arrested and sent to England, where he was subsequently tried and punished with dismissal from the army.

During Macquarie's term of office a great improvement manifested itself in the moral and industrial condition of the colony, and the rum traffic in spirits was rigidly suppressed. Education, hitherto neglected, received special attention, churches and public buildings were erected, and the work of exploration was pushed on. For the purpose of making himself personally acquainted with the conditions of life in the colony, the Governor undertook periodical journeys throughout the various districts, and no important event happened in the settlement of which the Governor was not made cognisant. In his efforts, which is the amelioration of social conditions in the young colony the Governor was ably assisted by his wife, who specially devoted her attention to improving the lot of the women and children.

The Blue Mountains had hitherto formed an impassable barrier to the march of colonisation towards the west, and many attempts had been made to find a practicable route across them. In 1813 however, Messrs. Blaxland, Lawson, and Wentworth succeeded in crossing the range, and opening the way to the vast plains of the interior.

Macquarie showed great kindness to the "emancipists," as those persons were called who had served their sentences as convicts and remained in the colony. Many of these were leading useful and honourable lives, and it was the Governor's constant effort to remove the social disabilities under which they laboured and to encourage them to persevere in the path of useful citizenship. The Governor also showed a large-hearted tolerance in religious affairs, removing, as far as possible, the differences which in this respect had for some time prevailed. After the longest term of office enjoyed by any nominated representative, Macquarie returned to England in 1821, carrying with him the affectionate esteem of the community, with the exception of a minority who were irreconcilably opposed to his policy of toleration. He was succeeded in the administration by Sir Thomas Brisbane.

During Brisbane's term of office the work of exploration was steadily continued. In 1823 Surveyor-General Oxley was sent to survey Moreton Bay, Port Curtis, and other portions of what is now the Queensland coast. From information given by a castaway named Pamphlet, Oxley discovered the river discharging into Moreton Bay, which he named Brisbane in honour of the Governor. Hume and Hovell were despatched with an exploring party in a south-westerly direction overland from Sydney. After opening up much new country they discovered the Murray and Murrumbidgee Rivers, which, rising in the Great Dividing Range, flow westward, ultimately unite, and discharge into the sea on the South Australian coast, over a thousand miles from their respective sources.

The new Governor also encouraged the introduction of free settlers, with the result that numbers of wealthy young men came to the colony and took up land, and this in time led to the abolition of the costly Government farms. It was found also that supplies could be raised from the soil at a much lower rate than was possible under the previous conditions of Government control.

The Governor gave evidence of liberal views in other directions. Up till this time there had been a rigid censorship over newspaper articles published in the colony, but in 1824 liberty of the press was affirmed by proclamation. About this time also the old method of dispensing justice in a Court composed of a judge, assisted by assessors drawn entirely from officers of the army, was dispensed with, and trial by jury was instituted, the first properly empanelled jury sitting at the Quarter Sessions of November, 1824. To Sir Francis Forbes, the first Chief Justice, is mainly due the credit of introducing this much-needed reform. Up to this time the Governor had possessed practically absolute power over the affairs of the colony, the only restraining influence being the force of public opinion amongst the colonists, and the far-distant authority of the Secretary of State. But the colonists were granted a certain measure of self-government in 1823, when, under an Act passed by the British Parliament, it was provided that the Governor should nominate a Legislative Council of seven members, by whose advice he was to be guided.

Sir Thomas Brisbane was succeeded in 1825 by Major-General Ralph Darling, who before very long found himself involved in serious disputes with the colonists and the press. On account of some very severe strictures by the latter with reference to the conduct of public affairs, the Council passed several Acts which temporarily curtailed newspaper criticism. An indirect result of the enforcement of these Acts was that the number of members of the Council was increased from seven to fifteen in 1828. About this time the Bushranging Act was passed by the Council with the idea of putting a stop to the depredations of the bushrangers, as the desperadoes were called, who either singly or in gangs roamed over the highways, and robbed travellers indiscriminately.

During Governor Darling's administration the work of exploration was vigorously pushed forward. In 1823 Allan Cunningham made his way northwards from Bathurst towards the head waters of the Castlereagh, discovering the gap in the mountains known as the Pandora Pass by which access was opened to the country beyond. In 1826 he penetrated northwards to the country round the Upper Darling. In 1827 crossing the Namoi and Dumaresq Rivers, he reached the Darling Downs. Next year, working inland from Moreton Bay, he discovered the practicable pass from the coast to the Downs which still bears his name. The most famous explorer of the time, however, was Captain Sturt. In his first journey Sturt discovered the Darling and traced with the Castlereagh and Macquarie to their junction with it. At the time when he passed over the country a prolonged drought had left its effect, the Darling being quite salt, while the bed of the Castlereagh was a mixture of water. The inland sea which Oxley had affirmed his belief in was also proved to be non-existent. In his second expedition, in which he was accompanied by George Macleay, Sturt descended the Murrumbidgee and discovered the Murray, which he followed down to the sea.

At this time there were persistent rumours to the effect that the French contemplated the formation of settlements on the Australian continent. Steps were therefore taken to occupy the threatened points in advance, and expeditions were despatched to Western Port and King George's Sound. At King George's Sound the township of Albany was founded, but Western Port, which the French had left in August, was shortly after abandoned.

Governor Darling left the colony in 1831, and was succeeded in the administration by Sir Richard Bourke, one of the most popular of the governors who have ruled in New South Wales. It was to Bourke's suggestion that the policy of assisted immigration was due, the British Government doubling the amount voted by the Legislative Council to give effect to it. The first immigrants to arrive under this system were the young women from an orphan school in Ireland, and fifty nine [illegible] brought from Scotland by Dr. Lang to assist in building the Australian College.

Bourke's tenure of office was also made noteworthy by the valuable explorations conducted by Sir Thomas Mitchell, the Surveyor-General. In his first expedition Mitchell made a careful examination of the country northward from the Liverpool Plains. His second expedition was for its object the closer exploration of the districts between the Bogan and the Darling. On this occasion he found the country far different from what Sturt had experienced, for the river banks were now well grassed, where the Darling was no longer a salt stream, but a stately river. Mitchell established the depôt of Fort Bourke, and explored the river's course for some three hundred miles. He had now established the [illegible] its connection with the Namoi, Gwydir, and Condamine, and [illegible] determined to make certain whether it joined the Murray or

dowed away westward. Next year, therefore (1836), he proceed down the Lachlan basin to the Murrumbidgee, and thence along t Murray till he met the stream which Sturt had taken to be the Darlin This idea he proved to be correct, and then turned back with the obje of ascertaining the connection between the Murray and Hume's seri of rivers. But near Swan Hill he reached the Loddon, and ascendi Mount Hope and Pyramid Hill, obtained the first vision of a count which so charmed him that he gave it the name of Australia Feli [illegible] this district, he crossed the Loddon and Avoca Rive [illegible] of the Wimmera, and later on reached the Glenel [illegible] down to its estuary, and then turned eastwa [illegible] Bay, where he came upon the settlement of the brothe [illegible] return journey Mitchell ascended Mount Macedo [illegible] grassy plains stretching away to Port Phillip [illegible] to his camp near Castlemaine, he proceeded fro [illegible] Murray, which he crossed a little below t [illegible] Mitchell soon afterwards made a triumph [illegible] after an absence of seven months' duration.

[illegible] the colony in 1837, carrying with him t [illegible] whom he had so ably ruled. As son [illegible] particularly in regard to the questi [illegible] to erect a statue of him in Sydne [illegible] was completed and placed at the Macquari [illegible] Domain, where the ceremony of unveiling too [illegible] April of the same year.

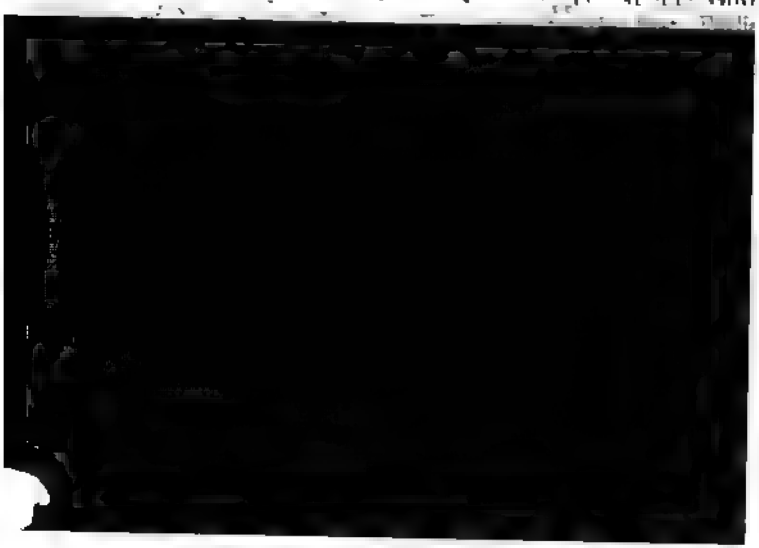
The next Governor was Sir George Gipps, who assumed office [illegible] and immediately found himself called upon to grapple wi [illegible] very serious import. One of the most pressing of the [illegible] the abolition of the transportation system. For a long time t [illegible] had been growing in the colony that the day was past wh [illegible] South Wales should be called upon to receive convicts, and [illegible]

...ation was a £20 rental, or a freehold of £200 in value, and the ...ation for elective members was property to the amount of ...00, or of £100 yearly value. The first meeting of the newly-...ated Council took place on the 1st August, 1843.

In 1844 a movement was begun by the settlers in the Port Phillip ...t to have that portion of the continent proclaimed a separate ...y. At this period the total population of what is now New South ..., Victoria, and Queensland was not more than 150,000, the ...ts of the Port Phillip district numbering about 30,000. It was ...ly by these settlers that the distance which separated them from ...t of government was too great to permit of their requirements ...g attention, and their claim for separation was eloquently ...ed by Dr. Lang, one of the six members representing the Port ... district in the Council. After seven years of agitation their ... was granted, and in 1851, when the population numbered ..., the country south of the Murray was formed into a separate ... under the name of Victoria.

Sir George Gipps retired from office in 1846, and was succeeded by ... Charles Augustus Fitzroy. During Fitzroy's term of office, which ...ed in January, 1855, occurred some of the most important events ...e annals of the colony. Chief amongst these was the discovery of ... in 1851. For some years before this time there had been rumours ... existence of the precious metal. In 1839 Count Strzelecki ... traces of gold in iron ore at Hartley, in the Blue Mountains, ... Governor Gipps, fearful of its effects on the convict community, ...ded Strzelecki to keep the matter secret. Again, in 1841, the Rev. ... Clarke found grains of gold in a creek near Bathurst. Speaking ... England in 1844, Sir Roderick Murchison stated it to be his belief ... the Great Dividing Range of Australia would be found as rich in ... as the Ural Mountains of Europe. But it was not till the ... Government Geologist had confirmed Edward Hargraves' discoveries ..., and nuggets of gold began to arrive in Sydney, that the ... of the geologists were remembered. Almost in an instant ... of the community were infected with the most intense ... The immediate result of the discovery was extremely ... The squatters were deserted by their shepherds and ..., work in the various trades was paralysed for want of hands ... to it, while a general suspension of ordinary business seemed ... to result from the wild rush to the diggings. However, in a few ... matters resumed a more sober aspect, and gold mining took its ... among the settled industries of the colony.

The year 1851 was also a memorable one through the passing of an ... from the Imperial Government providing for the granting of a ... measure of self-government for New South Wales. The desire ... free Constitution had been strong for some years before the dis... of gold, and now that the colony had received such a large



be thrown away in times of scare. To modern eyes the value of these precautions seems peculiarly ludicrous.

The first Ministry under Responsible Government, short-lived though it was, is worthy of record as marking a new stage in the Colony's progress. Its personnel was as follows:—Stuart Alexander Donaldson, Colonial Secretary; Thomas Holt, Colonial Treasurer; William Montagu Manning, Attorney-General; John Bayley Darvall, Solicitor-General; George Robert Nichols, Auditor-General; and William C. Wentworth, Representative of the Government in the Legislative Council. Nichols was also Secretary for Lands and Works in this Administration. Donaldson, Manning, and Darvall were appointed Members of the Executive Council on the 29th April, 1856, but they did not take office until the 6th June, as some preliminary arrangements were necessary before they vacated their seats as Members of the Legislative Assembly. Mr Alexander Warren was also appointed a Member of the Executive Council on the 21st May, 1856, but resigned without entering upon the duties of the office.

Early in 1857 a Bill was reserved for the Royal Assent, which had for its object the repeal of so much of the Constitution Act as required the concurrence of two-thirds majorities in both Houses of Parliament in the passing of measures for the alteration of the Constitution, or of the number and apportionment of representatives in the Legislative Assembly. In the same year the public mind was greatly disturbed by the spread of a rumour to the effect that the Moreton Bay district was to be separated from New South Wales with a view to a revival of transportation to that settlement. A series of motions embodying the popular sentiment on the subject was moved by Mr. Parkes, and carried in the Assembly without division.

The subject of Federation had received considerable attention from the framers of the Constitution, and it was again brought up by Mr E. Deas Thomson, who moved in the Legislative Council for a Select Committee to bring up a report on the matter. This Committee subsequently met and brought up a report embodying various resolutions, but prorogation of Parliament stopped further progress.

In the year 1855 steam communication was renewed with England which had been interrupted by the outbreak of the Crimean War, when all the available means of transport were pressed into service for the conveyance of troops and stores to the seat of operations. But so far as the colony was concerned, this year was marked by a much more important event, namely, the opening of the railway line which connected Sydney and Parramatta. On the 26th September, five years after the first sod was turned, and nine years after the railway project was mooted, the first train that ever ran in New South Wales left the Western Railway Station.

The year 1856 saw the erection, at the instance of Sir William Denison, of the Sydney Observatory, a great number of the instru-

marks therein being those which were originally used in the old Parramatta Observatory. The first observatory in the colony existed as far back as 1788, a view of Port Jackson at the time showing it as on the shore of Sydney Cove. On the 29th October, 1858, the telegraph line between Sydney, Melbourne, and Adelaide was opened for public communication, while extensions to Bathurst and Maitland were completed two years later.

The year 1857 was marked by an unprecedented number of casualties. In many districts of the colony disastrous floods occurred, resulting in much loss of life and property. The valleys of the Hunter and Hawkesbury Rivers in particular were the scenes of much devastation. Another awful catastrophe was the wreck of the "Dunbar" at the Gap, near Sydney Heads, when, out of 120 persons, mostly colonists returning to New South Wales, only one was saved. This disaster was shortly afterwards followed by another, the wreck of the "Catherine Adamson" near the Heads, resulting in the loss of twenty-one lives. In consequence of the latter tragic occurrences, steps were taken to improve the coastal lighting in the vicinity of Sydney Heads, and a fine lighthouse was erected on outer South Head.

About the middle of 1858 reports came down the Queensland coast of the discovery of gold at Port Curtis. The find was made at a cattle station called Canoona, some seven miles from the landing stage of what is now the city of Rockhampton, on the Fitzroy River. The discovery was greatly magnified, as was, and is, so often the case with respect to new "rushes"; and a great exodus set northwards, especially from Sydney and Melbourne. During the month no less than 4,000 miners left Sydney for Rockhampton, and the excitement grew with every shipload that left the port. A township sprang into sudden existence, and by the end of October some 10,000 miners were assembled at the scene of the "rush." But the Canoona field was as short lived as it was famous. The area of payable workings was soon found to amount to two and a half acres, and even in this limited space the gold was all on the surface. Deep digging was rewarded with disappointment, and the field was proved a failure. The miners flocked to Sydney, and it became necessary for the State to relieve their destitution. By the end of the year 1858 the Port Curtis field was practically abandoned, but, strange to relate, the surrounding district has since developed into one of the richest fields in the Northern Colony. Fortunately, shortly after the failure of the Canoona "rush," gold was found at Kiandra, in the neighbourhood of Snowy River, and a number of miners quickly collected on the spot, though anything like systematic exploitation was not possible during the winter months. The Kiandra field was quickly worked out for the time being, though the workings at New Chum Hill, and other places in the vicinity, have since been profitably reopened. Discovery followed upon discovery in various parts of the colony about this time, one of the most famous being that at Burrangong, or Lambing Flat, which was subsequently to give the

Government no little trouble in connection with the rioting of the diggers over the influx of Chinese.

In 1859 assembled the new Parliament, which had been elected under Cowper's measure providing for increased electoral representation, universal manhood suffrage, and vote by ballot. Every Parliament since then has been elected on the same basis, with the extension of manhood suffrage by the adoption of the principle of "One-man-one-vote," the adjustment, from time to time, of electoral representation of population, and a few minor changes.

The first half of the year 1860 was marked by heavy and greatly destructive floods, and the Legislative Assembly was impelled to vote the sum of £3,000 for the relief of the sufferers. The gold fields at Kandra and Burrangong were gradually absorbing the disappointed men who had returned from the Port Curtis "rush," and considerable activity in the exploitation of the precious metal was everywhere exhibited. But if the mining industry was in a prosperous condition, so much cannot be said of the pastoral interest. About this time a new sickness broke out among the stock in the colony; this was staggers, called locally the "Cumberland Disease," and many stock-owners were heavy losers.

The presence of large numbers of Chinese at Lambing Flat gave rise to a serious disturbance towards the close of 1860. Matters had reached such a pitch that bodies of police and military had to be despatched to the locality to maintain order. There is no doubt that the action of the Premier, Mr. Cowper, in personally proceeding to the diggings, and promising on behalf of the Government to give the miners' claims every consideration, averted what might have proved to be far more serious developments.

After the first excitement of the rush for gold had died out, the question of land settlement had to be dealt with in an entirely new spirit, to meet the requirements of a class of immigrants different to that contemplated by previous enactments. In September, 1860, Mr Robertson introduced two Land Bills—the Crown Lands Alienation Bill and the Crown Lands Occupation Bill. The main principle of the latter Bill was that of "free selection before survey," but after a protracted debate the measure was defeated. Soon afterwards a vote of want of confidence in the administration was carried, and Parliament was dissolved.

One of the last official acts of Sir William Denison gave rise to much criticism and parliamentary attack. After a lengthy correspondence between the Imperial and Colonial Governments, the Governor made a grant to the heirs of a person named Tawell of certain property escheated to the Crown. Tawell was a returned convict who had been executed in England for a murder he had committed there. The grant had been drawn up in the office of a private solicitor, and the Governor demanded the Great Seal of the Colony from Mr. Cowper in order to affix the grant with it. The Premier refused to hand it over, and

pointed to a previous decision of the Cabinet on the subject. But Sir William Denison had received the command of the Secretary of State and was determined to obey it, notwithstanding the protests of the Colonial Ministry. He, therefore, insisted on the surrender of the Seal, and the Ministry handed it over, but tendered their resignations at the same time. His Excellency having completed the deed of grant, returned the Seal, but declined to receive the resignations of the Ministry. This led to a proposal in Parliament by Mr. Cowper that a Committee should be appointed to prepare an address to Her Majesty praying that she might be pleased to direct that the Great Seal of the colony should not be used except with the advice of a responsible Minister, or of the Executive Council for the time being. After some debate, however, no further action was taken in the matter.

An event of the greatest importance during the regime of Sir William Denison was the separation of the Moreton Bay district in the year 1859, and its erection into a separate colony under the name of Queensland. The agitation for separation had continued on the part of the northern settlers for many years; but they encountered a determined opposition at the hands of the representatives of the southern communities. The Imperial Government requested Governor Denison to draw up a report on the advisability of granting self-government to the residents of Moreton Bay district, and in his reply the Governor strenuously opposed the idea. When the text of the Governor's despatch was published it raised a storm of indignation in the breasts of the northerners. But the indignation was transformed into delight when Her Majesty's Government informed His Excellency that the time had arrived when "separation would be desirable," despite vice-regal arguments to the contrary; and at length, on the 13th May, 1859, Royal Letters Patent were issued creating the Colony of Queensland, and appointing Sir George Ferguson Bowen as its first Governor. The new colony was formally proclaimed on the arrival of Bowen in the month of December following, and separation from the mother-colony was an accomplished fact.

Sir William Denison surrendered office on the 22nd January, 1861. From the 23rd January to the 21st March, the Government was administered by Lieutenant-Colonel John F. Kempt, of the 12th Regiment. On the 22nd March, the Right Hon. Sir John Young arrived in the colony, but was not immediately sworn in as Governor-in-Chief, as he had reached the colony in advance of his credentials. He, therefore, took office as Administrator, and as such remained until the 15th May, when he assumed the position of Governor-in-Chief, and held it until the 24th December, 1867.

Throughout the whole of the period during which Sir John Young presided over the Government of the colony a great deal of democratic legislation was attempted, and some carried into effect. About this time the gold miners made their influence felt as a political factor in the colony, and brought sufficient pressure to bear on the Government to

assing of a Gold fields Bill, with especial reference to aliens. arket was starved through the withdrawal of hundreds to and the Assembly voted the sum of £5,000 for the des- t Britain and Ireland of lecturers and immigration agents, lling upon Messrs. Parkes and Dalley, who accordingly left carry out this mission.

861, Mr. Robertson again introduced his Land Bills, and ar passing the Upper House resigned his seat in the d on the 3rd April was sworn in as a member of the ouncil. In order to counteract the determined opposition easures aroused in the Upper House, twenty-one new e appointed to the Council. The effect of these appoint- bring about a parliamentary crisis, the President of the her with a number of the members withdrawing from the as the new members could not be sworn in, the Legislative d to exist. Under any circumstance the Council had not as its members were nominated for a term of five years no legislation had been passed in regard to a new Council, the Governor to choose a Council whose members would life. The nominations gave the Governor's advisers much anxiety, and the Premier, Mr. Charles Cowper, called to perience of the most capable man in the political arena of William Charles Wentworth. The Governor, on his part, tremely anxious in the matter of the nominations, and twenty-seven names for the life period, or six above the mber, being advised in the matter by Edward Deas- most experienced person in the official life of the colony, al ruler in the days of Sir Charles Fitzroy. But there en of tried experience and high position, and His Excel- daily consultation with a little council privileged and him. Of those proposed for appointment several declined but on the 24th June, 1861, the following list of the first l was published in the *Government Gazette*. From an ndpoint it possesses an especial interest—George Allen, nes, John Campbell, John Bayley Darvall, Robert Fitz- Fletcher Hargrave, George Kenyon Holden, Charles Kemp, lane, Alexander Macarthur, Sir William Montagu Man- Lewis Shaw Merewether, James Mitchell, John Hubert ohn Robertson, Ralph Meyer Robey, Bourn Russell, well, Alexander Walker Scott, Edward Deas Thomson, tenholme Ward, John Brown Watt, and William Charles the appointment of the last-named as President of the Council being announced in the same number of the *Gazette*.

matter to engage the attention of the new Parliament was deferred land legislation. At last, on the 18th September, own Lands Alienation Bill and the Crown Lands Occu-

[illegible] to the Assembly by Mr. Cowper. Both [illegible] and their stages, and transmitted to the [illegible] following day, and soon afterwards became law. [illegible] Registration and Restriction Bill was introduced [illegible] 1861, and practically embodied the legislation [illegible] It provided for a penalty of £10 upon the [illegible] master of any vessel, for every Chinese passenger [illegible] in excess of one to every ten tons of the ship's [illegible] for the payment of £10 by each Chinese before [illegible] and. It also provided for an annual payment of [illegible] during his residence in the colony, and there was a [illegible] immigration of Chinese. After some differences [illegible] and several amendments made in the Upper House, [illegible] through its final stages, and was assented to on the 27th [illegible] 1861.

The question of Church and School Lands, which had been before the [illegible] for many years, again came up for discussion. In 1826 a [illegible] and the Trustees of the Clergy and School Lands in the [illegible] New South Wales was empowered, amongst other things, to [illegible] leases of such lands as should be granted by the Crown, [illegible] and purchase money to be paid to the Treasury. The net [illegible] was to be applied to two funds—the Improvement [illegible] Fund, and the Clergy and Schools Account—the former [illegible] to the improvement of churches, parsonages, school-[illegible] and the latter to the support of the clergy of the Established [illegible] of England and the maintenance of schools and schoolmasters. [illegible] which had been set apart for the maintenance and education [illegible] all moneys pertaining thereto were also vested in this [illegible]. In 1853 the affairs of the Corporation were transferred [illegible] Board of Commissioners, and all property belonging to the [illegible] at the time of its dissolution was vested in the Crown. [illegible] revenue arising from sales and leases of property was bounded [illegible] and paid to the Colonial Treasurer, and was applied in [illegible] with instructions received from the Secretary of State in [illegible] five-sevenths in payment to ministers of the Church [illegible] and Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, and Wesleyan Methodist [illegible] two-sevenths to the purposes of public instruction. In [illegible] it was urged in Parliament that, on the dissolution of the [illegible] previously alluded to, the Clergy and School Lands became [illegible] the Crown, and the revenue arising from them should be [illegible] the Consolidated Revenue Fund, but by a decision of the [illegible] Court it was held that these lands were not so disposable, but [illegible] to and became vested in the Crown for the promotion of [illegible] and education in the colony.

The matter of an elective Legislative Council, with a modified [illegible] on the basis of the Assembly's membership, was again [illegible] forward in 1861. A Bill dealing with the question had

passed the Assembly in the preceding session and had not been proceeded with, and a similar Bill was introduced by the Attorney-General into the Council and referred to a Select Committee. At the close of the session this Committee brought up a progress report, wherein they stated that they had discussed the subject, but had not had time to mature their views. All through this particularly active legislative period the question of an elected Upper House was a burning one. Wentworth, disappointed with the failure of his proposed nominee chamber, lent the weight of his approval to the measure of reform. In June, 1862, the Attorney-General again introduced a Bill, which, after argument, was referred to a Select Committee. The property qualifications recommended by this Bill were—Freehold or leasehold for an unexpired term of at least 21 years, or of the value of £300, or £20 per annum: leasehold if for a less term, of £50 per annum, household occupancy paying rent of £50 per annum, or pastoral tenure of Crown Lands at £20 per annum. The Hare system of voting for election was advocated. It was also proposed to introduce a principle which provided for the appointment of nominated members selected for special services, who should hold their seats for life. After passing through all its stages in the Council, this Bill was sent to the Legislative Assembly on the 8th October, where, after being debated for some time, it was allowed to drop. Another measure which aroused a good deal of controversy was the Bill to prohibit future grants of public money for aid of public worship. Prior to the third reading, requests were put forward by the clergy of the Church of England for permission to present their case by Counsel, and later Mr. Gordon was heard at the bar of the House. The Bill passed the Assembly and was transmitted to the Legislative Council, where various protests were lodged against its acceptance. The Council made certain amendments in the measure, which, however, were not insisted on, and having passed through its remaining stages, it was reserved on the 10th December for the signification thereon of Her Majesty's pleasure, which was given in due course.

The question of cotton cultivation was one of extreme interest during the early sixties, when the American Civil War was at its height. Dreamers had curious visions of a second America, white with a wealth that would replace that of the gold field days, already drifting into a memory. On the 27th June, 1862, Mr. Hay obtained leave to introduce a Bill for the encouragement of cotton growing. The Act provided that grants of portions of waste lands might be made on certain conditions to associations and responsible persons who would undertake cotton culture. The Bill passed both Houses and received the Royal Assent.

On the 4th October, 1862, Mr. Wentworth vacated the President's chair in the Legislative Council, and was succeeded by Mr. Terence Aubrey Murray, formerly Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. In the meanwhile Messrs. Parkes and Dalley, emigration agents and returned, were recalled from their mission to Great Britain and Ireland

in pursuance of a resolution of the House of Assembly, adopted on the motion of Mr. Robertson.

During the interval that elapsed between the session of 1862 and that of 1863, an Intercolonial Conference was held in Melbourne to discuss the existing tariffs, and certain other matters affecting the interests of the colonies. A more extended reference to the deliberations of this Conference will be found in the chapter dealing with the history of Victoria.

On the 19th August, 1863, Mr. James Martin (afterwards Chief Justice of the Colony) moved:—"That, in the opinion of this House, the alarming insecurity for life and property which has so long prevailed throughout the country districts is in a high degree discreditable to Her Majesty's Ministers in this colony; and, secondly, that the conduct of Her Majesty's Ministers in this colony, in the appointments to the Magistracy, and generally in connection with the administration of justice, has been such as to call for the strong condemnation of this House." Indeed, the condition of the country districts had grown to be alarming in the extreme. Acts of bushranging (or of "robbery under arms") were of daily occurrence, and the police appeared powerless to cope with the evil. Highway robbery is an invariable practice in young countries where means of communication and transit are limited. From the earliest times it had been the experience of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land, where a large prison population and the scattered nature of settlement made it an extremely difficult task effectively to deal with criminal escapees. Victoria drew several highwaymen to her country districts as soon as gold discoveries had made it profitable to "stick up" escorts and mail coaches. It was not until the colonies were traversed by railroads and threaded by telegraph wires that life and property could be considered as being at all safe. It was by no means the first time in the history of New South Wales that extraordinary legislation had been demanded to combat the great evil of bushranging; and Van Diemen's Land was also obliged to make strenuous efforts to put down this pest. The Bushranging Act of New South Wales, one of the most remarkable measures known in the colony, was passed by the old Legislative Council in 1830, at a single sitting. The debate on Mr. James Martin's resolutions concerning bushranging, moved on the 19th August, 1863, continued until the 27th of the same month, when the resolutions were negatived by 44 to 18. On the first of the month following Mr. William Forster moved that the proceedings and results of the recent Intercolonial Conference held at Melbourne had been highly unsatisfactory, and his resolution was lost by 27 to 16.

The year 1863 witnessed the initiation of the long protracted Riverina district trouble. On the 2nd September Mr. Morris presented a petition from the inhabitants of that part of the colony praying for the establishment of their district as a distinct one, with defined boundaries, on the same footing as that of Port Phillip before separation, and

with a superintendent or sub-governor. The petition was received, and on the same evening a similar petition to the Governor, with the reply of the Colonial Secretary thereto, was laid on the table. The letter of the Colonial Secretary was to the effect that the Government were not prepared to recognise the necessity of defining any portion of the existing colony of New South Wales as a distinct province; and that the appointment of a Government superintendent would impede rather than expedite the transaction of public business. Amidst their arduous duties the members of the Assembly found time to attend to their own particular affairs, and, on a resolution moved by Mr. Stewart, affirmed, by 19 to 13, that it was desirable that members of Parliament should be entitled to travel by railway free of charge.

Sir John Young retired from the Government of New South Wales on the 24th December, 1867, and Sir Trevor Chute, K.C.B., administered the Government till the arrival of the Earl of Belmore, who entered office on the 8th January, 1868. About a week after the installation of the new Governor, the Duke of Edinburgh arrived in the colony, and was received with great demonstrations of loyalty. A feeling of widespread horror pervaded all classes when news respecting the attempted assassination on the 12th March became known. The party feeling aroused by the suggestions—very widely believed—that this unfortunate occurrence was instigated by a certain section of the community forms one of the most regrettable incidents in the annals of the colony.

On the 18th March Mr. Martin moved, and Mr Robertson seconded, a motion for the suspension of the Standing Orders, with a view to the passing through all its stages in one day of a "Bill for the Better Security of the Crown and Government of the United Kingdom, and for the Better Suppression and Punishment of Seditious Practices and Attempts." The Bill passed through all its stages in both Houses in one day, and assent thereto was reported on the next day. The Treason Felony Act, brought in by Mr. James Martin, was, in its scope and language according to the reported words of that gentleman, "sufficiently large to include any attempts at deposing the Queen, establishing a Republic, putting down the Courts of Law, or any designs which may exist here or elsewhere for any such purposes as those."

Shortly after the departure of the Duke of Edinburgh for England, Mr Henry Parkes, in a speech delivered at Kiama, stated that he held conclusive proof that the attempted assassination of the Prince was the result of a deliberate plot, and further, that someone who had a guilty knowledge of the secret, and whose fidelity was suspected, had been foully murdered. These statements created a profound impression throughout the country, and in the early part of 1869 formed the subject of an inquiry by a Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly. The Committee, in its report, practically declared that the statements made by Mr Parkes were unsupported by the evidence adduced. However, when the report came before the Assembly, Mr. Parkes

secured its rejection by a substantial majority, and had it expunged from the records. The Assembly then adopted resolutions condemnatory of the methods employed by the Select Committee in conducting the inquiry.

On the 15th December, 1868, the Triennial Parliaments Bill was introduced by Dr Lang. On the 22nd January following, the second reading of the Bill was negatived by 20 to 18, and it was then discharged by the casting vote of the Speaker. It was, however, subsequently reintroduced and passed in 1874.

In the months of June and July, 1870, an Intercolonial Conference was held in Melbourne, at which representatives from New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia were present, the New South Wales delegates being the Hon. Charles Cowper, Colonial Secretary, and the Hon. Saul Samuel, Colonial Treasurer. Information respecting the deliberations of this body will be found in the chapter of this work dealing with the history of Victoria.

The year 1870 was the hundredth anniversary of the discovery of the eastern coast of the Continent by Captain Cook, and it was felt that it would be a peculiarly appropriate year for an Intercolonial Exposition. Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, and Victoria furnished exhibits illustrative of their resources, but New Zealand was not represented. The Exhibition was held in a building erected in Prince Alfred Park by the City Corporation at a cost of £20,000, and, in spite of various drawbacks, was a pronounced success.

During the election following immediately on the dissolution of Parliament in 1872, considerable feeling was displayed in the Southern Border Electorates over the separation question. Mass meetings were held at Albury, and attempts were made to revive the agitation for the separation of the Riverina from the mother colony.

The Earl of Belmore retired from the Government of New South Wales on the 22nd February, 1872, and an interval of about four months elapsed before the arrival of Sir Hercules Robinson, during which time the Government was administered by Sir Alfred Stephen. On the 3rd June, 1872, the new Governor assumed office under a Commission appointing him Governor and Commander-in-Chief of New South Wales.

On the 7th May, 1873, Sir James Martin announced in the Legislative Assembly the death of Mr William Charles Wentworth, and moved that, as a fitting tribute of respect the House should adjourn, which was accordingly done. On the meeting of the Legislative Council, on the 8th, following, that House also adjourned in token of respect to Mr Wentworth's memory.

Legislative activity at about this period concerned itself most particularly with the Border duties. A Bill to make provision for free intercourse across the boundary line of the river Murray was introduced by Mr Parkes on the 12th June, 1873, and passed the Assembly by a

jority. The Bill was, however shelved by the Legislative
by a majority of one in a very small House. The action of the
caused much irritation in the Assembly, and the Premier
ced his intention of taking steps to reform the Upper House
this time the Government introduced a public works policy of
nsive character involving the construction of four separate lines
way as well as various harbour works and public buildings, the
involving an expenditure of £1,562 000; and in order to have
for the construction of these works, it was proposed to set apart
0 for immigration purposes This public works policy was
ed for a little over fifteen years under various administrations.

rds the close of 1874 the Governor announced to the House
ation of the Imperial Authorities to take over the Fiji Islands
South Pacific, and in pursuance of this policy he proceeded to
nds, and formally took possession of the group in the name of
ajesty.

ng Sir Hercules Robinson's term of office the first "through"
essage was received from England, railway communication with
rne was carried on within the Victorian territory from the
ns of that colony as far as Wodonga, the cable from La Perouse
kapuaka was opened, and direct telegraphic communication
n New South Wales and New Zealand thereby established; the
from Sydney to Bathurst was opened to traffic the overland
ph line from Adelaide to Perth was completed, and the "Seven
s" were thus brought within sympathetic earshot.

perhaps, the most important event marking Sir Hercules
on's term of office was of political and not of material significance
s the institution in New South Wales of Triennial Parliaments.
t Parliament elected under the Constitution Act met on the
ay, 1856; and the duration of Parliament, unless it should be
ly prorogued, was originally fixed at five years; but in 1874
was passed establishing Triennial Parliaments, and this Act
e since remained in force.

he day following the departure of Sir Hercules Robinson (the
arch, 1879), Sir Alfred Stephen took up the duties of Administra
and discharged them until the 3rd August, when Sir Augustus
Frederick Spencer Loftus, P.C., G.C.B. (commonly called Lord
entered on his term of office as Governor.

holding of the first International Exhibition was a great event
Loftus' regime. The previous Intercolonial Exhibition having
so successful, it was determined that this one should partake of
rnational character The management of the affair was
ly in the hands of the Agricultural Society, but it assumed such
portions that the Government determined to take it over, and
d the work to an honorary Commission. The Exhibition was
a commodious building called the Garden Palace, and was in

[illegible] a pronounced success. On the advantage to commer[illegible] there is little need to dwell. Unfortunately t[illegible] to the ground in 1882, and many valuable documen[illegible]

[illegible] gave further proof of its power and its resources in t[illegible] military contingent to the British Army which had be[illegible] up the Nile in an endeavour to rescue General Gord[illegible] [illegible] as to the fate of the gallant Governor of Kh[illegible] [illegible] anxiety in the colony, and the Acting Premi[illegible] [illegible] Dalley, with the sanction of the Ministry, offer[illegible] [illegible] of New South Wales. It was thought that [illegible] Suakim to the Nile was about to be undertaken, a[illegible] [illegible] the New South Wales Government suggested t[illegible] [illegible] of a force of infantry and artillery, together wi[illegible] [illegible] of horses. The offer of the colony was accepte[illegible] [illegible] 1885, the Australian Contingent, as it was calle[illegible] [illegible] really the New South Wales Contingent, sailed fro[illegible] [illegible] in two large steamships, the "Iberia" and t[illegible] [illegible] which left Port Jackson amid the wildest enthusias[illegible] [illegible] military support ever tendered by any of these coloni[illegible] [illegible] country. The day of departure was proclaimed a publ[illegible] [illegible] more brilliant and exciting spectacle had ever been se[illegible] [illegible] was witnessed on the day of departure of the troop[illegible] [illegible] for the Egyptian campaign were subsequent[illegible] [illegible] little army returned in safety on the 24th Jun[illegible] [illegible] from the date of their setting forth, without havin[illegible] [illegible] that the impression produced in England by th[illegible] [illegible] of the colonies was extraordinary, and this impre[illegible] [illegible] by the presence of Australian troops at th[illegible] [illegible] the subsequent visit of a squadron of the Ne[illegible] [illegible] to England, and lastly, by the despatch of troop[illegible] [illegible] Australasian colonies to assist the British forces in th[illegible] [illegible] Soudan Contingent gave rise to a new estimate of th[illegible] [illegible] Empire, and stimulated greatly the discussion o[illegible] [illegible] of Imperial Federation.

[illegible] term of office, a leading topic of conversatio[illegible] [illegible] circles, and a source of Ministerial trouble an[illegible] [illegible] Millburn Creek Copper Mining Compan[illegible] [illegible] the reputation and probity of several person[illegible] [illegible] positions in the community. Among other even[illegible] [illegible] His Excellency's period of administration w[illegible] [illegible] sinking of the first artesian bore in Australi[illegible] [illegible] New South Wales, and by the first issue of silver coin [illegible] [illegible] During this year the National Park, the largest o[illegible] [illegible] pleasure grounds, was dedicated to the people of Ne[illegible] [illegible] Wales, and it is intended that this locality shall, as far [illegible] [illegible] preserve for all time its distinctive scenery.

of the most important measures passed in the colony since the tion of Responsible Government, was the "Bill to make more e provision for Public Education,' introduced by Sir Henry in 1879, and assented to in 1880. This Bill, known as the e Instruction Act of 1880,' repealed the Public Schools Act of nd dissolved the Council of Education, the powers of which trusted to the Minister of Public Instruction. The Bill abolished d to denominational schools and established a secular and ory system with free education for the children of those who t in a position to pay the small fee imposed by law.

her important enactment in 1879 was the Electoral Bill. ll, assented to in 1880, repealed the Electoral Act of 1858, New South Wales into 68 electoral districts, and increased the of members to serve in the Assembly to 103.

ion has been made to the vexed question of Church and School This was finally disposed of by a measure called the Church ool Lands Dedication Act, which was assented to in 1880, and the control of the Church and School Lands in the Legislature South Wales, and applied the income arising therefrom to the of public instruction. An Intercolonial Conference com- its sitting in Melbourne on 26th November, 1880, the colonies ted being New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia. matters of intercolonial concern were discussed, such as con- tion with respect to the influx of Chinese, the appointment of al Council to deal with questions affecting the colonies in Border duties, &c.

he 7th July, 1881, Sir Henry Parkes introduced his Chinese n Act, and it received the Royal Assent on the 6th December n was made for the payment of £10 by every Chinese entering ny by sea or land, and restrictions were placed on the number could be introduced by any one vessel. Severe penalties were d for any infringement of the law.

year 1883 witnessed the completion of the railway from Sydney ourne. The line from the Southern capital to Wollonga had ened in 1875, but it was not till eight years afterwards that the n line from Sydney reached this part of the border. Two years e massive railway bridge crossing the Murray at Albury was , thus joining the colonies by an iron link. An important of the year 1883 was the discovery of the rich silver deposits at Hill. In 1885 the Broken Hill Proprietary began operations, ing the period extending from that year to 1899 silver to the £20,561,000 was produced.

ost the remaining events of importance during the administra- Lord Loftus were the establishment of the Board of Technical on, and the completion of the railway line to Bourke, on the hing. Lord Loftus term of office came to a close on the 9th ber, 1885, and his successor, the Right Hon. Baron Carrington,

C

did not arrive in the colony till the 12th December following. In the meantime Sir Alfred Stephen discharged the duties of Lieutenant-Governor.

On the 23rd March, 1887, a terrible disaster occurred at the Bulli Colliery, when 83 miners lost their lives through an explosion of gas in the workings of the mine. As a result of the inquiry following on the catastrophe, the Legislature took steps towards minimising the possibility of such accidents occurring in the future.

The close of the year 1887 witnessed the completion of the present scheme of waterworks for the metropolitan district. In the early days of settlement the colonists had to be content with the waters of the "Tank Stream." At a later date a supply was obtained from the natural reservoir at Botany, but as this proved inadequate for the ever-increasing population, the present scheme, which is among the most perfect in the world, was initiated. The sources of supply are the waters of the Nepean, Cataract, and Cordeaux Rivers, draining an area of 354 square miles, the catchment area enjoying a copious and regular rainfall. The off-take works are built at a height of 437 feet above sea-level, and the water flows through a series of conduits, partly tunnel, partly open canal, and in places wrought-iron aqueducts, to Prospect Reservoir, a distance of 40 miles from the furthest source of supply. Here a storage reservoir has been constructed, capable of holding 11,000 million gallons, of which nearly 7,000 millions are available for supply by gravitation. From Prospect the water flows into various distributing and pumping reservoirs. During the year ended 30th June, 1899, the total amount of water supplied was 6,860,146,000 gallons, but this quantity by no means adequately represents the capacity of the available supply.

Early in 1888 the public mind was much exercised by the large influx of Chinese immigrants, who, in spite of the "Chinese Restriction Act of 1881," had been arriving in rather alarming numbers. In the preceding twelve months no fewer than 4,436 Chinese subjects had arrived in the country. Early in May two vessels arrived in Port Jackson bringing a large number of the aliens, but they were not allowed by the Premier, Sir Henry Parkes, to land. However, this action on the part of the Premier was contrary to law, and the matter was brought before the Supreme Court, with the result that he had to give way. Feeling still ran high in the colony, and at length, on the 11th July, 1888, Parliament voiced the sentiments of the people by passing a drastic "Chinese Restriction Act." Under the provisions of this measure, which is still in force, no vessel is allowed to carry more than one Chinese passenger to the colony to every 300 tons; such Chinese as land are required to pay a poll-tax of £100; they are not permitted to engage in mining without authority from the Minister of Mines; nor are they permitted to take advantage of the Naturalisation Act. An exception is made in the case of Chinese who, by birth, are British subjects. Provision is made for a penalty of £500 for a breach of the

This measure has, of course, tended greatly to reduce the number
hinese immigrants, but it is believed that not a few manage to elude
igilance of the police, and enter the colony by the landward borders.
887 the number of Chinese immigrants into New South Wales was
6, in 1888 it had fallen to 1,848, and in 1889 to 7. During 1899
umber recorded was 36, of whom 31 were British subjects.
om the year 1885 the colony began to suffer from a stoppage in
ide of prosperity, which people had fondly accustomed themselves
gard as permanent. In 1886 employment became difficult to
in, and wages consequently fell. In the years 1886-7 work was
ended in some of the Southern collieries by strikes and disputes. On
4th August, 1888, 6,000 coal-miners in the Northern district col-
s laid down their tools. Ill feeling between the owners and men ran
, and was further accentuated by the arrest of several miners on a
ge of rioting. However, the sentences passed on these men were
wards remitted by the Governor. This strike ended in November,
after a short intermission, was renewed. In the years 1888-9 the
letion of various large public works, and the depletion of the
ury of loan money, threw out of employment some 12,000 men, no
siderable portion of the unskilled labour of the colony. In Sep-
er, 1890, the Broken Hill silver-mines closed down through a
al of the strike. Soon after this a conference of employers issued
manifesto. The Intercolonial Labour Conference held its first
ing on the same day (12th September), and on the next issued a
festo in reply to that of the employers. Fully 40,000 men left off
in response to the demands of the Conference, and on the 16th
were joined by various trolly and dray men. This was in the
t of the wool season, and the carriage of wool through the city had
undertaken by volunteer drivers. Shortly afterwards a shearers'
took place, involving some 20,000 men. Again, in 1892, the
s at Broken Hill turned out on strike, and the silver mines had to
e for over four months. On the 4th July, 1893, a general strike of
n on the intercolonial steamers began, and ultimately ended in the
of the workers.
om 1872 to 1886 the Government of the colony had pursued what
popularly termed a spirited policy of public works. The com-
on of the works undertaken in pursuance of this policy threw large
ers of men on the labour market, and thus tended to reduce the
s of those who remained in employment. This cessation of public
s also brought about the practical discontinuance of State-aided
gration, which had been the policy of the country for over fifty
. In 1883 the number of immigrants assisted to the colony by the
was 8,369; in 1886 it had fallen to 4,081, in 1887 to 1,362, and
88 it was only 528.
rd Carrington's term of office was marked not alone by strikes and
rnal disturbances, but by droughts, bush fires, and floods. Early
rch, 1888, immense loss was caused by the raging of bush fires in

entary elections; extension of the franchise to seamen, shearers, and general labourers by means of a provision for the registration of votes; extension of the franchise to policemen and soldiers; abolition of the six months residential clause as a qualification for the exercise of the franchise, single member electorates and equal electoral districts on adult population basis: all Parliamentary elections to be held on one day, and that day to be a public holiday, and all public-houses to be closed during the hours of polling. (2) Free, compulsory, and technical education, higher as well as elementary, to be extended to all alike. (3) Eight hours to be the legal maximum working day in all occupations. (4) A Workshop and Factories Act to provide for the prohibition of the sweating system; the supervision of land boilers and machinery, and the appointment of representative working men as inspectors. (5) Amendment of the Mining Act, to provide for all applications for mineral leases being summarily dealt with by the local magistrates; the strict enforcement of labour conditions on such leases; abolition of the leasing system on all new gold fields; the right to mine on private property; greater protection to persons engaged in the mining industry; and inspectors to hold certificates of competency. (6) Extension to seamen of the benefits of the Employers' Liability Act. (7) Repeal of the Masters and Servants Act and the Agreements Validating Act. (8) Amendment of the Masters and Apprentices Act and the Trades Union Act. (9) Establishment of a Department of Labour, a national bank, and a national system of water conservation and irrigation. (10) Elective magistrates. (11) Local government and decentralisation: extension of the principle of the Government as an employer, through the medium of local self-governing bodies; the abolition of the present method of raising municipal revenue by the taxation of improvements effected by labour. (12) The Federation of the Australasian colonies upon a national as opposed to an Imperialistic basis, and the abolition of the present Defence Force and the establishment of our military system upon a purely voluntary basis. (13) The recognition in our legislative enactments of the natural and inalienable rights of the whole community to the land—upon which all must live, and from which by labour all wealth is produced—by the taxation of that value which accrues to land by the presence and needs of the community, irrespective of improvements effected by human exertion, and the absolute and indefeasible right of property on the part of all Crown tenants in improvements effected on these holdings. (14) All Government contracts to be executed in the colony. (15) Stamping of Chinese-made furniture. (16) Any measure that will secure to the wage-earner a fair and equitable return for his or her labour.

At the general elections in June, 1891, the Labour Party's candidates entered into the battle with their platform of the foregoing sixteen planks. For the first, or metropolitan, batch of elections, fifty-two members were required, and the Labour Party scored heavily. Twenty-seven candidates were nominated, and eighteen seats out of the fifty-two

were captured, and even in those metropolitan constituencies where the Labour candidates failed, they nevertheless obtained a large number of votes. When the contest was over, the Labour Members in Parliament numbered thirty-five, but besides these some dozen or more members were prepared to support every plank in the Labour platform. Some of the constituencies cast a block Labour vote. For instance, Balmain sent four Labour Members to Parliament, Canterbury two, Forbes two, West Sydney four, Young two, Redfern two, and Newcastle two; while seventeen other constituencies sent one each. The party did not long remain united; and on the displacement of the Government of Sir Henry Parkes and the accession to office of Mr. (afterwards Sir) George Dibbs, of the thirty-five original members eighteen voted with the Government, and seventeen with the Opposition. Later the party became further disorganised, and a new "Democratic Party" was formed out of the fragments, with a platform comprising the following planks:—Regulation of factories and workshops, regulations of coal-mines and mining on private property, repeal of the conspiracy laws, amendment of the Masters and Servants Act, an amended Land Bill, abolition of pensions, and the restriction of alien and pauper labour. The newly reorganised party was definitely pledged to a solid vote on every issue in which the existence of the party was threatened; and though now less numerically powerful than it originally was, it is still essentially a factor to be reckoned with.

On the 2nd March, 1891, the Federation Convention held its first sitting in the New South Wales Legislative Assembly, under the Presidency of Sir Henry Parkes. On the 9th April the National Federation Convention, after twenty-two days of deliberation, completed its labours, and was dissolved, after having agreed upon an Australian Commonwealth Convention Bill. The delegates taking part in this historic conference had been appointed by the different Australasian Parliaments, and numbered forty-five. The Convention was called together at the instance of the Hon. James Munro, the Premier of Victoria, and the colonies represented were New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Western Australia (each sending seven delegates) and New Zealand (sending three). The Draft Bill framed by the Convention of 1891 did not, however, meet with the approval of the various Colonial Parliaments, though it afterwards formed the basis of the Bill adopted by the Convention held six years later. During the Convention of 1891, the Premiers of the colonies, assembled together as delegates from their respective provinces, met at the Colonial Secretary's office in Sydney, to discuss matters affecting their common Australian interest, and this was the first occasion of the gathering together of such a representative group.

The Australasian Auxiliary Squadron arrived in Port Jackson on the 5th September, 1891. It consisted of five fast cruisers and two torpedo gun boats—viz., the "Katoomba," the "Ringarooma," the "Mildura," the "Wallaroo," the "Tauranga," the "Boomerang," and

rakatta." The fleet was created under the provisions of the ian Naval Force Act, which was assented to on the 20th r, 1887, all the Australasian colonies entering into an agree h the British Government for the payment of a subsidy s maintenance.

other incidents and events of Lord Jersey's term of office entering of the colonies into the Universal Postal Union; ary run on the Government Savings Bank at Sydney in 1892; and the opening of the Women's College.

occurred the financial crisis which shook Australia to its ns. Reference has just been made to the temporary run on mment Savings Bank on the 11th February, 1892. This was of a groundless rumour regarding its stability. Far other the banking crisis of 1893. Bank after bank operating in alasian colonies suspended payment. A shipment of £900,000 as made from London to meet the requirements of Australia general. The Dibbs Government endeavoured to allay the perturbation by declaring bank notes to be a legal tender and ing their payment by the State from the 15th May to the ember, 1893, after which date this expedient was no longer The action of the Government had excellent effect, but public had received such a staggering blow that it was long ere it The Ministry of Sir George Dibbs gave way in August, one led by Mr. G. H. Reid. The principal Parliamentary ring Mr. Reid's tenure of office were the passing into law of ing measures:—

nd Income Tax Act, Crown Lands Act introducing the prin- omestead leases and settlement leases, Audit Act Amendment, ice Act removing the appointment and promotion of officers control of political heads and placing them under independent mers, Water Rights Act, Factories and Shops Act, Public ct, Advances to Settlers Act, and Federation Enabling Act.

ert Duff, who succeeded Lord Jersey in 1893, died on the h, 1895, while still in office. Sir Frederick Matthew Darley e administration, and continued his duties till the arrival of Hampden on the 21st November, 1895.

ary and February, 1895, a Conference of Premiers, at which lonies except New Zealand were represented, was held at or the purpose of arranging a scheme of Federation on a ch might secure a more speedy realisation of the hopes of ists. It was decided to ask the Parliament of each colony Bill enabling the electors qualified to vote for Members of House to choose ten persons to represent the colony on a Convention. The work of the Convention is elsewhere

ember, 1899, Mr. (now Sir William J.) Lyne displaced Mr. had held office for more than five years—a longer term than

any preceding Premier. Sir William Lyne is still in office. The principal measures passed by his Government may be mentioned—The Friendly Societies Act and the Navigation Act—which had been introduced and advanced certain stages by the previous Government; the Miners Accident Relief Act; the Early Closing Act; the Gold Dredging Act; the Reappraisement Act; the Sydney Harbour Trust Act; the Darling Harbour Wharfs Resumption Act; and the Old-age Pensions Act.

Viscount Hampden's term of office ended on 6th March, 1899, and from 7th March to 18th May Sir Frederick Darley discharged the duties of Governor. Earl Beauchamp assumed vice-regal office on 18th May, 1899, and remained in the colony until 1st November, 1900, when the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Frederick Darley, again took up the duties pending the arrival of a new Governor.

In the following table will be found a list of the successive Ministries which have held office since the introduction of Responsible Government, with the duration in office of each:—

No.	Ministry	From—	To	Duration	
				months.	days.
1	Donaldson	6 June, 1856	25 Aug., 1856	2	19
2	Cowper	26 Aug., 1856	2 Oct., 1856	1	6
3	Parker	3 Oct., 1856	7 Sept., 1857	11	5
4	Cowper	7 Sept., 1857	26 Oct., 1859	25	20
5	Forster	27 Oct., 1859	8 Mar., 1860	4	11
6	Robertson	9 Mar., 1860	9 Jan., 1861	10	0
7	Cowper	10 Jan., 1861	15 Oct., 1863	33	7
8	Martin	16 Oct., 1863	2 Feb., 1865	15	16
9	Cowper	3 Feb., 1865	21 Jan., 1866	11	19
10	Martin	22 Jan., 1866	26 Oct., 1868	33	6
11	Robertson	27 Oct., 1868	12 Jan., 1870	14	16
12	Cowper	13 Jan., 1870	15 Dec., 1870	11	3
13	Martin	16 Dec., 1870	13 May, 1872	16	28
14	Parkes	14 May, 1872	8 Feb., 1875	32	26
15	Robertson	9 Feb., 1875	21 Mar., 1877	25	13
16	Parkes	22 Mar., 1877	16 Aug., 1877	4	24
17	Robertson	17 Aug., 1877	17 Dec., 1877	4	0
18	Farnell	18 Dec., 1877	20 Dec., 1878	12	3
19	Parkes	21 Dec., 1878	4 Jan., 1883	48	16
20	Stuart	5 Jan., 1883	6 Oct., 1885	33	2
21	Dibbs	7 Oct., 1885	21 Dec., 1885	2	14
22	Robertson	22 Dec., 1885	25 Feb., 1886	2	3
23	Jennings	26 Feb., 1886	19 Jan., 1887	10	24
24	Parkes	20 Jan., 1887	16 Jan., 1889	23	27
25	Dibbs	17 Jan., 1889	7 Mar., 1889	1	20
26	Parkes	8 Mar., 1889	22 Oct., 1891	31	16
27	Dibbs	23 Oct., 1891	2 Aug., 1894	33	11
28	Reid	3 Aug., 1894	13 Sept., 1899	61	10
29	Lyne	14 Sept., 1899	....	....	....

VICTORIA.

The first authentic identification of the Colony of Victoria dates from the 19th April, 1770, when Captain Cook, in the barque "Endeavour," sighted the eastern coast of Australia at a spot which he named Point Hicks—probably the Cape Everard of to-day. Twenty-seven years afterwards a store ship was wrecked on one of the islands beyond Cape Howe, and some of the crew, reaching the mainland, walked along the coast a distance of 240 miles to Sydney. George Bass, who had already made a voyage along the coast in an open boat, having heard from the ship-wrecked sailors an account of their adventures, induced the Governor to provide him with a whale-boat, with a crew of six and provisions for six weeks, in order to carry on explorations. Having sailed along the coast as far as Wilson's Promontory without adventure, Bass was driven by a storm to seek shelter in Western Port, where he remained nearly a fortnight, making careful explorations. His provisions being nearly exhausted, he returned to Sydney without making any further discoveries on the southern coast, though he had established the fact that the Continent was separated from Van Diemen's Land by a strait, which the Governor named after its discoverer. In the year 1800, Lieutenant Grant, in H.M.S. "Lady Nelson," sighted the south-western coast of the Colony at Cape Northumberland, and left it at Cape Schank. He was, therefore, the first European to sail through Bass's Strait from the westward. In the following year he sailed from Sydney and explored the southern coast as far as Western Port, and cleared land and planted a garden on Churchill Island. In the month of December, 1802, Lieutenant John Murray, who had succeeded Grant in the command of the "Lady Nelson," reaped the first harvest from Victorian soil, and then sailed on to the mouth of a large inlet, into which he sent his first mate, Lieutenant Bowen, in a launch. Some days later, the brig herself entered the heads, and, after three weeks of exploration along the shores of the harbour, the territory was taken possession of in the name of the King, with the usual ceremonies, at Point Paterson.

On the 26th April, 1802, about three months after Lieutenant Murray's departure, Flinders, who was voyaging from England to Sydney, in the "Investigator," entered Port Phillip, but did not make any extended survey of the inlet. Acting on the favourable recommendation of Flinders, Governor King urged the Home authorities to make a settlement on the shores of Port Phillip, and, in the meantime, despatched a surveyor and an officer to make a tour of the Bay, and

[illegible] its suitability for occupation. Their report, however, was [illegible] discovery of the country as a place of settlement, but [illegible] who were sent out from England, Lieutenant-Governor [illegible] was sent out, bringing with him, in the "Calcutta" and [illegible], the elements of a small colony to form the station which [illegible] had so earnestly recommended. When Collins arrived [illegible] Port Phillip Bay in 1803, he effected a landing at what is now known [illegible] Sorrento, but being impressed with all its defects and none of its [illegible] for the purpose of settlement, he stayed only about four months. [illegible] he weighed anchor and conveyed his little colony to the newly-[illegible] station at Risdon in Van Diemen's Land. During his stay, however, the first white child born on Victorian soil saw the light, the first marriage was solemnised. Then for [illegible] years the interior of the Colony remained untrodden by the foot of a white man.

On the 16th December, 1824, Hume and Hovell, who had led an [illegible] from Lake George, in New South Wales, encamped [illegible] of the present city of Geelong. Two years later, in order to [illegible] British designs on the southern territory, a party was sent by sea [illegible] Western Port; but this, too, was [illegible] owing to the unfavourable reports of the leaders. The first [illegible] attempt at settlement on Victorian soil was that of the brothers [illegible] who established themselves at Portland Bay in 1834, with flocks, [illegible] and agricultural implements, and were there found by [illegible] in the course of his famous expedition through *Australia* [illegible] the explorer named the territory now known as Western [illegible].

The genuine colonisation of the Port Phillip district was effected in [illegible] two parties operating from Van Diemen's Land, the one being [illegible] by John Batman, a native of Parramatta, in New South Wales, [illegible] the other by John Pascoe Fawkner, a native of Launceston. Batman treated with some native chiefs for the transfer of 600,000 [illegible] of land, and secured that area for trifling payments of flour, [illegible] tomahawks, handkerchiefs, trinkets, etc.; but the claims of [illegible] were disallowed by the Government at Sydney, and by the [illegible] although the Batman Association was subsequently [illegible] by the Governor of New South Wales, the sum of £7,000 as [illegible] in recognition of its assistance in the colonisation of the [illegible]. Batman was materially assisted in his transactions [illegible] by a wild white man named William Buckley living [illegible]. He had escaped from the expedition of Collins in 1803, [illegible] a brief stay at Sorrento. At the time when Batman found [illegible] was about 50 years of age. He had been a soldier, and was [illegible] to have in a mutiny at Gibraltar. Batman arrived at [illegible] Melbourne towards the end of May, and Fawkner's party [illegible] of August, 1835; and they were speedily followed by other

from Van Diemen's Land. Stockmen came overland from and the squattages near Lake George, and, before long, the and the valleys around Geelong and Melbourne were covered the flocks and the herds of the new settlers.

In the month of September, 1836, the Port Phillip district was pro- open to settlement, and on the 29th of that month Captain arrived to assume later the position of Chief Magistrate. In month of March of the succeeding year, the settlement was visited Sir Richard Bourke, the Governor of New South Wales, and received him its name of Melbourne, while the designations Flinders, Bourke and Lonsdale bestowed upon some of the principal commemorate the early years of Australia's colonial history.

The first years of settlement were marked by steady progress. In , the Secretary of State for the Colonies appointed Mr. Charles Joseph La Trobe Superintendent of the District of Port Phillip, an office carrying with it the authority and functions of a Lieutenant Governor. William Lonsdale was appointed his secretary, and a Court of Justice was established, Mr. Justice Willis being the first resident Judge. In beginning of the following year, Angus McMillan discovered, and partially explored, the large and fertile province of Gippsland, named in honour of Sir George Gipps, the new Governor of New South Wales. On his return journey, McMillan met Count Strzelecki setting forth on a similar expedition. The latter gentleman explored the Murray to its in the Australian Alps, discovered and named Mount Kosciusko, thence in a south westerly direction to Mount Tambo and the District, crossed the Great Dividing Range, and, heading for Western Port, crossed and named eight large rivers, and succeeded in opening up a magnificent country covering an area of 5,600 miles, with square miles of coast ranges and 250 miles of sea-board. In the wake of the explorations of McMillan and Strzelecki, settlement rapidly in fact, almost as soon as the travellers returned with accounts of their discoveries, adventurous spirits pushed forward to establish squattages in the wilds of Gippsland.

In 1842, Melbourne was incorporated, Henry Condell being its first mayor, and savings banks were established in the new city. By an Act the Imperial Parliament, passed in the same year, the inhabitants of the Port Phillip District were empowered to send six representatives to the Legislative Council of New South Wales. The first representative of Melbourne was also its first mayor, while of the five members elected to represent the voters outside the capital of the district, two Mr. C. H. Ebden and Dr. Alexander Thomson were settlers in Port Phillip; and three the Rev. Dr. Lang, Dr. (afterwards Sir) Charles Nicholson, and Mr. Thomas Walker belonged to Sydney. Some time previously, an agitation had been started among the people of the Colony for separation from New South Wales, and expression was given to this feeling by Dr. Lang, who moved a resolution affirming its necessity in the Legislative

[illegible] August, 1844. Dr. [illegible] to one. A petition [illegible] praying for separation [illegible] the 11th February, [illegible] Melbourne, and the occasi[illegible] Events now moved [illegible] Australia, and Tasmani[illegible] Imperial Statute, and wh[illegible] Melbourne of the grant [illegible] thereat contin[illegible] a separate [illegible] was appointed Lieut[illegible] New South Wales, [illegible] of Australia, [illegible] which two [illegible] year pre[illegible] was discovere[illegible] Lieutenant Murray [illegible] amounted to £76[illegible]

[illegible] wrought ruin and desolation to [illegible] Thursday [illegible] of February, [illegible] the earth [illegible] eye-witness th[illegible] women and [illegible] of miles the country [illegible] were swept clean, [illegible] rushed in te[illegible] forests on fire at Ma[illegible] Melbourne.

[illegible] was announced in the *Port P*[illegible] Henty Ranges. [illegible] Committee was formed in [illegible] William Campbell, a settler o[illegible] in quartz ipo[illegible] Then the excite[illegible] discovery of gold was rep[illegible] was found at Bunin[illegible] December the 10[illegible] of these [illegible] and the [illegible] overwrought ima[illegible] fortune transce[illegible] distinctions were lev[illegible]

a thirst for gold seizing upon the entire community. The shops [illegible] empty, the streets deserted, the doors of the counting-houses [illegible], the plough left rusting in the furrow, sheep and cattle wandering untended, while the port of Melbourne was filled with unmanned [illegible], dropping to pieces for lack of attention or repair. But in the [illegible] and all along the creek courses of Clunes, Buninyong, and the [illegible] River, and in many other auriferous places around, thousands [illegible] swarmed, and the roads from the port to the fields were crowded [illegible] eager gold-seekers. Trade soon, however, began to revive, and [illegible] business was done by the gold buyers and lodging housekeepers in [illegible] by the carriers, who found freightage at £80 per ton from [illegible] to Bendigo to pay as well as gold-digging on the fields: by [illegible] proprietors and the shanty and dancing-hall keepers, who became [illegible] notable "first robbers" of fortunate diggers. The public service [illegible] however, reduced to abject inefficiency the police decamped, like [illegible] superiors, in search of fortune; and even domestic servants, male [illegible], joined in the general stampede. The Governor was reduced [illegible] condition of absolute powerlessness, and ruled in Melbourne with [illegible] loneliness with hardly any to obey his behests like a monarch [illegible] realm. Society was, in truth, utterly disorganised, and then [illegible] began to become even more embarrassing. The news reached [illegible], America, Europe, besides the neighbouring colonies, and at the [illegible] of disembarkation up sprang "Canvas Town," formed by the myriad [illegible] of the new arrivals. From South Australia and Van Diemen's [illegible], without reckoning the other colonies, something like 11,000 [illegible] poured into Melbourne, bound for the fields, in the latter half of [illegible]. Moreover, the supply of gold appeared inexhaustible. [illegible] the end of the month of December in the year of its discovery [illegible], upwards of 10 tons of the metal had been obtained from the [illegible] fields, and it is interesting to note here that nearly one-third [illegible] world's annual production of gold is raised in the Australasian [illegible], and of these Victoria, down to 1897, retained the first position; [illegible] the colony's total yield since the first discovery up to the end [illegible] the year 1899 was 65,000,000 oz., valued at about 257 millions [illegible].

The arrivals from Europe in the early days included, not only what [illegible] been picturesquely described by an Australian writer as the "brain [illegible] drawn of the Old World, but also many that could have been [illegible] spared, viz., fugitives from justice, adventurers from California [illegible] the South Pacific, escaped convicts and disguised bushrangers, [illegible] sharpers and professional gamblers from every city on the "Continent" [illegible] the "States," and hordes of Asiatics from Canton and the Straits [illegible] settlements, there being not less than 25,000 Chinese whom the gold [illegible] attracted to the various fields. Week after week, and month after [illegible], vessels filed into Hobson's Bay, landing passengers and discharging cargoes in the most primitive fashion, for their crews deserted [illegible] as the ships dropped anchor or came to their moorings. The

professional men and navvi
deserters and runaway sailors, "for
political refugees from France
in short, of every civilised
towards the sun poured, in new
for the gold fields. Upwa
during the latter half of 18
and in 1853-4-5, nearly a quarter
The gold which made the Victorian fields reached
after its discovery, when the return
represented a value of £12,600,00
1860 inclusive was upwa
of the colony in the latter ye
The palmy days of gold hunti
and most of the great pri
of the industry The fi
was found in Canadian Gully, B
A nugget found on Bakery Hill, in the sa
weighed 2,217 oz. Men mining at Golden Poin
to £400 sterling per day The Governo
in 1851, says that he saw 8 lb wei
of dirt. He heard also of a party whi
of the day, gold weighing 16 lb and t
obtaining 31 lb in weight before nightfa
were great, the failures were many, and numbe
were glad to return to their form
to the employments that the condition
called into being. Wages rose phenomenall
and blacksmiths found constant work, and fierce comp
for their labour, at £1 and £1 5s. a da
was excessive, amounting in the case of so
as £100 sterling per ton, and it is said that a publica
than 120 drinking shanties, disbursed as much
in the conveyance of goods from Melbourne, for seve
in the year 1853

A noteworthy incident of the period was the robbery of the sh
lying in Hobson's Bay, by a gang of desperadoes (probab
from across the straits), who boarded the vessel an
specie, valued at some £24,000 or £25,000 sterling. Th
as the community found exercise for their talents als
and robbing the gold escorts on their way to th
killing the armed officials who formed the guard
highwayings exploits were much more common in the earl
days of the neighbouring Colony of New South Wales.

Latrobe was succeeded by Sir Charles Hotham, R.N
arrived in Melbourne in the month of June, 1854. This offici

as been described as one who attempted to govern a free colony as he would the quarter-deck, and who, though possessed of many fine qualities, was totally lacking in the great essential of tact. He came to Victoria in a time of administrative trouble and embarrassment. The separation of the Port Phillip district from the Colony of New South Wales had been attended by the creation of a Legislative Council, composed of ten nominee and twenty elected members. Among the latter there were, however, no representatives of the great bulk of the people who had been attracted to the gold-fields. One of the first acts of the Council was the imposition of a license-fee of £1 10s. per month which had for a time been raised to £3 exacted from every person searching for gold, the license not being transferable, and available only within a half-a-mile of the police head-quarters whence it had been issued. Moreover, whenever it was demanded from a digger by a police officer, the license had instantly to be produced, and this proved an excessively galling condition. Digger-hunting by the young cadets in the Government service was frequently indulged in with unnecessary harshness, and the spectacle of some fifty or sixty handcuffed together was no uncommon thing. Everyone engaged in searching for gold who had neglected to procure or to renew, or who had lost or mislaid his license, was a subject for legal treatment, and the action of the authorities occasioned tremendous heart-burning. This culminated in an agitation for the suppression of the license-fee which began at Bendigo, in 1853, and quickly spread to the other gold-fields. The Government met this manifestation of popular indignation, in 1854, by the issue of an order directing the police to devote two whole days a week to the hunting down of unlicensed diggers, and then the smouldering embers of rebellion broke into flame.

A digger named Scobie had been killed in a scuffle at an hotel in Ballarat kept by a man named Bentley, and the man's comrades believed the latter to be concerned in what they considered to be murder. The Police Magistrate, before whom Bentley was brought, acquitted him, and indignation meetings were immediately held. At one of these the hotel which had figured in the trouble was burnt to the ground, its owner only escaping by flight on horseback. For this act of incendiarism three men were arrested, not one of whom, it was alleged, was concerned in the affair; and a public meeting was held, at which resolutions were carried demanding their immediate release, affirming at the same time the right of the people to the exercise of political power. However, the three prisoners were taken to Melbourne, and each was sentenced to a short term of imprisonment. Again did the diggers demand their release, and again were they refused. Their attitude, however, was ominous, and two detachments of infantry were sent up to Ballarat from Melbourne. They arrived on the 29th of November, 1854, and were attacked by the diggers, who followed them to their bivouac. This brought about a sortie by the

[illegible] of the military back. Two day[illegible] [illegible] digger hunt, and the soldiers we[illegible] [illegible] The diggers resist[illegible] [illegible] an armed defence, electing the late Ho[illegible] [illegible] and entrenching themselves behind [illegible] [illegible] known as the Eureka Stockade. O[illegible] [illegible] and police, consisting of 276 men, an[illegible] [illegible] in the entrenchment to attack the rea[illegible] [illegible] made a gallant defence, but, at[illegible] [illegible] the Stockade was carried a[illegible] [illegible] diggers were dispersed. During th[illegible] [illegible] Captain Wise, of th[illegible] [illegible] about thirty of the diggers wer[illegible] [illegible] while of the soldiers, four wer[illegible] [illegible] the tents within the Stockade wer[illegible] [illegible] was placed under martial law, and th[illegible] [illegible] Melbourne. On the 1st April, 1855, they [illegible] [illegible] treason in the Supreme Court [illegible] [illegible] outbreak—Messrs. Lalor, Vern[illegible] [illegible] capture. Public sympathy with the [illegible] [illegible] could be empannelled, to [illegible] was voluntarily undertaken by several [illegible] was secured. An amnesty was [illegible] to the outbreak were remitted [illegible] recommended the introduction [illegible] representative system, based on a [illegible] November, 1855, the new Constitution [illegible] Legislature, and had received [illegible] was proclaimed. It estab[illegible] [illegible] popular representation and two [illegible] when the first Cabinet, with Mr Haines [illegible] of Ballarat was represented in [illegible] Humfray, both of whom were con[illegible] [illegible] to authority at the storming of the [illegible] course of time, and remained [illegible] Legislative Assembly.

[illegible] the administration of the [illegible] Sir Charles Hotham, and he succumbed [illegible] the year 1855, the administration [illegible] upon Major-General Macarthur until the [illegible]

[illegible] appointed to succeed Sir Charles [illegible] the 23rd December, 1856, [illegible] his wife, who had become [illegible] received in a carriage accident, the [illegible] the unfortunate event exciting [illegible] the community.

At the end of the year 1857, the Philosophical Institution took up the question of the exploration of the interior of the Continent, and appointed a committee to inquire into and report upon the subject. In September, 1858, and as soon as it had become known in Victoria that John McDouall Stuart had succeeded in penetrating as far as the centre of Australia, the sum of £1,000 was anonymously offered for the execution of exploration, on condition that a further sum of £2,000 was subscribed within a twelvemonth. The amount having been raised within the time specified, the Victorian Parliament supplemented it by a vote of £6,000, and an expedition was organised, under the leadership of Robert O'Hara Burke, with W. J. Wills as surveyor. The promotion of this exploratory scheme was merely a matter of emulation between Victoria and South Australia as to which colony should be first to cross the Continent from sea to sea. The undertaking was planned upon a large scale, and no pains were spared to secure success. The expedition, however, ended in disaster; its leaders—Robert O'Hara Burke, W. J. Wills, and an assistant named Gray—lost their lives. No one can deny the heroism of the men whose lives were sacrificed in the ill-starred undertaking; but it is admitted that the leaders were not seamen, and had no experience in exploration. Disunion and disobedience to orders, from the highest to the lowest, brought about the worst results, and all that now remains to tell the story of the failure of the undertaking is a monument to the memory of the explorers, from the chisel of the late Charles Summers, erected on a prominent site in Melbourne. The anxiety of the Exploration Committee of the Royal Society, and of the Australian public, regarding the fate of Burke and Wills, led to the despatch of several relief expeditions by Victoria, Queensland, and South Australia. That sent out by Victoria was led by Alfred W. Howitt, a son of William and Mary Howitt, and resulted in the finding of John King, camel-driver to the Burke and Wills expedition, and sole survivor of the four who had crossed the Continent. Howitt was again sent out, shortly after his return with King to Melbourne, to disinter and bring back the bodies of Burke and Wills, which received a public funeral on the 28th December, 1862—one of the most impressive spectacles ever witnessed in the capital of Victoria.

During the seven years in which Sir Henry Barkly held office, some material changes were made by the Legislature, not only in its own constitution, but also in the laws of the Colony. Manhood suffrage and vote by ballot were instituted, and the property qualification for Members of the Assembly was abolished. Large areas of land were thrown open for selection, the maximum area for each selector being fixed at 640 acres, and State aid to religion was abolished.

In March, 1863, an Intercolonial Conference was held in Melbourne to discuss the existing tariffs and various other matters of intercolonial concern. The suggestion which led to the meeting was

On intercolonial Customs duties and their distribution, it was resolved that Customs duties ought to be paid to the revenues of those colonies by whose population the dutiable articles were consumed; and that the colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia ought to co-operate with each other to secure to each Colony the revenue to which it was legally entitled, either by the distribution of the Customs revenues collected by all at stated periods ratably, according to their population, or by some other mode which might be considered equitable and practical.

As to transportation, it was resolved that a committee, consisting of Messrs. Cowper, O'Shannassy, Meredith, and Blyth, should prepare an address to Her Majesty, which address was afterwards adopted. It set forth that the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the subject of transportation had caused apprehensions in the minds of the inhabitants of the Australian Colonies lest some portion of their territory might be selected as a site for a new penal settlement. The address, after reviewing the experience of the colonies, protested against the system, and implored Her Majesty to refuse her sanction to any proposal for reviving transportation to any part of her Australian possessions. It was further resolved that four copies of the address should be engrossed, for transmission to Her Majesty severally by the Governors of the colonies represented.

As to immigration, it was resolved that it was of the highest importance to the prosperity and future greatness of Australia that a healthy flow of immigration should be encouraged and promoted, chiefly from the United Kingdom, and that, in pursuance of a common interest, the legislatures should severally make provision (as had been done by some) for permanent legal appropriation, so that they might accomplish this object. Further, that the decision arrived at with regard to any alteration in the tariff should apply with equal force to that affecting the immigration policy.

As to improvements to the rivers in the interior, it was resolved that the obligation of carrying into effect the necessary works for rendering navigable the great rivers of the interior should primarily devolve upon the respective Governments having jurisdiction over those rivers.

As to lighthouses and maritime objects, it was resolved that legislative action should be taken by the colonies represented, to prohibit vessels proceeding to sea from any port in the colonies unless under the command of masters holding certificates of competency. It was also resolved to make provision for granting certificates by competent authority, to ensure necessary qualifications; and to make uniform provision upon the subjects of salvage, buoyage, and the management of lifeboats. Further, that the system of maintaining coast lighthouses should be reconsidered, and that a joint commission should be appointed to consider and report generally upon the entire subject.

[illegible] with England it was resolved [illegible] the question, to consider [illegible] a fortnightly postal service with the [illegible]

[illegible] with England, it was resolved [illegible] the proposals brought under [illegible] Anglo-Australian, Indian, [illegible]

[illegible] that it was desirable [illegible] and that a uniform [illegible] should prevail throughout the [illegible]

[illegible] was Sir Charles H. Darling, who [illegible] unusually troubled and contentious [illegible] The interval between these years [illegible] and protracted conflict between the [illegible] principles of Protection and Freetrade [illegible] was espoused by a large majority of the [illegible] Assembly, while that of the latter [illegible] influential, and wealthy minority [illegible] in the Legislative Council. A [illegible] of a protective character passed [illegible] the Upper. The Measure was [illegible] and the Council again threw [illegible] proceeded to collect the duties on the [illegible] and, as funds were not available [illegible] Service, the Governor gave his approval [illegible] borrowed money from one of the banks, [illegible] reached £40,000. The Supreme [illegible] the collection of Customs duties on a [illegible] Assembly to be illegal; and, in [illegible] Tariff [illegible] removed from the Appropriation Bill, [illegible] the Lower House, and again the Council threw it [illegible] a dissolution, and the new Legislative [illegible] Protectionists to twenty Freetraders; and [illegible] a third time rejected by the [illegible] had no choice but to resign, upon which the [illegible] Mr. Service formed an Administration, but [illegible] would neither see the Chief Secretary nor grant [illegible] Meanwhile the salaries and wages of every person [illegible] ten weeks arrears. Then Sir [illegible] the Chief Secretary, returned to office, and a [illegible] was [illegible] which the Tariff Bill was passed [illegible] with a preamble asserting the [illegible] of the Legislative Assembly to grant [illegible] House objected to this, as being inconsistent

with the letter, as well as the spirit of the Constitution Act, and a conference was agreed upon; and the obnoxious portions of the preamble having been withdrawn, the measure passed through all its stages, as did also the Supply Bill, and the deadlock was removed. The conclusion of the crisis was precipitated by the recall of the Governor, on the ground that he had not maintained that strict neutrality during the political crisis which, as a constitutional administrator, it was incumbent on him to observe. His departure was made the occasion, on the part of his political friends, of a great public demonstration. Subsequently, also, the Legislative Assembly voted £20,000 of the public money to Lady Darling, as a *solatium* for her husband's recall. The Bill for the appropriation of what is historically known as the 'Lady Darling Grant' did not, however, meet with the approval of the Upper House. A futile attempt was made by the Assembly to force the measure through the Upper House by means of a "tack," and thus brought about another deadlock. At this juncture, news arrived from England of the death of the late Governor; and on the motion of Mr. Fellows, an annuity was voted to Lady Darling, all parties generously concurring, and thus averting a second crisis in the political conflict, the course of which was coeval with Sir Charles Darling's sojourn in the colony.

The Right Hon. J. H. T. Manners-Sutton (afterwards, by the death of his father, Viscount Canterbury) assumed the reins of Government on the 13th August, 1866, and held office until the 2nd March, 1873. During his term of administration there were no less than six changes of Ministry in less than seven years, but these do not seem to have affected the general prosperity of the colony. The fiscal policy of the country had been settled, there was a subsidence in the fury of party warfare, the revenue was on the ascendant grade; manufacturing enterprise experienced great expansion, the railway system of the province was being steadily developed, and things trended on the whole towards progress. In the months of June and July, 1870, an Intercolonial Conference met in Melbourne, at which representatives from the colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia were present. The most important questions considered by the Conference, as set forth in the Report, were:—A free interchange of the natural products and manufactures of the respective Colonies, a uniform tariff, a Customs Union, and a distribution of the revenue derived therefrom upon the basis of population. The delegates from the different colonies were, however, unable to fix a basis of agreement with regard to a list of articles involving freetrade on the one hand, and discriminating duties on the other, though they were in perfect accord upon several other questions of considerable importance. Despatches from the Imperial Government having intimated the intended withdrawal of the troops stationed in Australia, the Conference took into consideration the course to be pursued under the altered circumstances in which the colonies were about to be placed, and it

was decided to press upon the attention of Her Majesty's Government the necessity of making adequate naval provision for the protection of British and Australian commerce in Australian waters, especially in time of war. Resolutions were also agreed to on the following subjects :—

The adoption of the necessary steps for securing the withdrawal of the large amount of worn and deteriorated silver coinage circulating in the Australian Colonies.

The establishment of a British Protectorate over the Fiji Islands.

The calling of the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamers at the port of Kangaroo Island, in South Australia.

Telegraphic communication with Port Darwin, and with the Gulf of Carpentaria.

The proposed new schemes of ocean, postal, and passenger service.

The relief of distressed colonists and seamen in foreign ports

The compilation of the statistical records of the several Colonies upon a uniform method.

The Conference also expressed an opinion that the respective Governments should exert their influence with a view to the introduction of the decimal system of weights

Perhaps the most noteworthy measure of the period was the Education Act drafted by Mr. Wilberforce Stephen, which came into force on the 1st January, 1873, and which provided free, compulsory, and secular education up to a fixed standard. During the first twelve years of its operation, there was an increase of 72 per cent. on the number of schools opened, of 74 per cent. in the number of instructors, of 63 per cent. in that of the scholars on the rolls, of 76 per cent. in their average attendance and in the estimated number of distinct children in attendance.

During Viscount Canterbury's administration the Duke of Edinburgh visited Victoria, and received an enthusiastic welcome. His public acts during his sojourn in the Colony were the laying of the first stone of the Town Hall, in Swanson street, and of the fine hospital on St. Kilda road that bears his name.

Viscount Canterbury was succeeded by Sir George Ferguson Bowen, who had served as Queensland's first Governor, and whose tenure of office in Victoria was marked by a renewal of the political turmoil which had characterised the administration of Governor Darling. The old antagonism between the two Chambers broke out with redoubled vehemence : and they joined vigorous issue on the subject of payment of members. On two occasions the Upper House had passed a specific measure, authorising payment of members, to be operative for three years ; but at the

beginning of the third session of Parliament, in 1877, a new Ministry, at the head of which was Mr. Graham Berry, backed by a powerful majority in the Assembly, declared that the item should in future be carried on to the Appropriation Bill. This course was adopted, and the Council set the Bill aside. The consequence was that there were no funds to pay the servants of the Government, and on the 8th of January, 1878, a date henceforth known in the history of the colony as "Black Wednesday," a notice appeared in the *Government Gazette* dismissing all heads of Departments, the Judges of Country Courts, Courts of Mines and Insolvency, Police Magistrates, Crown Prosecutors, and members of other public offices. The proceeding was universally denounced as "revolutionary," and the effect on public confidence was disastrous in the extreme. There was an immediate shrinkage in property values, commerce was suddenly paralysed, and a considerable exodus to New South Wales, both of capital and labour, set in. The Upper House thereupon passed two Bills one a separate measure dealing with the payment of Members; the other an Appropriation Bill with the obnoxious "tack" omitted. Shortly afterwards, the Lower Chamber introduced a Bill adopting the principle of the referendum, and thus depriving the Upper House of most of its power as a co-ordinate branch of the Legislature. Of course, this was thrown out by the Council; and the Assembly then voted a sum of £5,000 to enable the Premier and a colleague, Professor C. H. Pearson, to proceed to England in order to lay the case before the Secretary of State for the Colonies. This precipitated matters. On the 4th December, 1878, Sir George Ferguson Bowen received a despatch recalling him to England.

On the 27th February, 1879, the Marquis of Normanby arrived. He was regarded by the Home Authorities as a safer administrator in time of political crisis than his predecessor. Meanwhile, Messrs. Berry and Pearson had arrived in England to seek Imperial aid in Victoria's constitutional difficulties. They were kindly received by Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, then at the head of the Colonial Office, and were given a great deal of excellent counsel. The Secretary of State for the Colonies signified that, in his opinion, no sufficient case for the intervention of the British Parliament had been made out. The right of self government had been given to the Colony of Victoria, and it was incumbent on her to work out her own constitutional problems. He counselled the Legislative Assembly not to introduce elements foreign to the tenor of Bills of Supply, and he considered that the Council would not then be likely to reject them. The despatch (which was shown to Messrs. Berry and Pearson before its transmission to the Governor) concluded by stating that the Imperial Parliament would never alter the Constitution of the Colony at the instance of only one House. This wise course of action on the part of the Colonial Office mitigated a political conflict which has never since been revived to the same extent.

[illegible] coincidentally with the assumption by the Marquis of [illegible] of the Government of the Colony occurred the capture, after a protracted siege in an hotel at Glenrowan, of the notorious band of armed highwaymen, known to the annals of crime as the [illegible] Gang. The career of these outlaws is one of the most remarkable in the history of modern times, and certainly transcends that of any other association of a like nature in the history of bushranging in Victoria. The "Gang" originally consisted of Edward and Daniel [illegible] (or Wild) Wright, the brothers Quinn, and the brothers [illegible]. They established themselves in the ranges lying between Greta and the King River, from which they issued forth to prey upon the settlers of the surrounding country, receiving assistance and being aided in their movements by numerous friends and neighbours who were, like themselves, horse thieves and cattle lifters. A fairly large reward having been offered for their capture, four mounted troopers of the Victorian Police Force, namely, Sergeant Michael Kennedy, Thomas Lonigan, Michael Scanlan, and Thomas McIntyre, set forth in pursuit, and encamped on the Stringybark Creek, about 20 miles from the town of Mansfield. Here one of them incautiously betrayed his presence by firing at some parrots. In the evening of the 26th October, 1878, as McIntyre and Lonigan were engaged in making tea, Kennedy and Scanlan being at the time absent, four armed men, two of whom were recognised as the brothers Kelly, suddenly made their appearance, and commanded the police to throw up their hands. McIntyre having no weapons with him, complied, but Lonigan drew his revolver, and was immediately shot dead by Edward Kelly. Presently the outlaw and his associates, hearing Scanlan and Kennedy approaching, concealed themselves behind some logs and covering McIntyre with a rifle, gave him the option of silence or instant death. Kennedy was commanded to throw up his hands. He did not do so, and was immediately fired at. He dismounted at this, and sought cover behind a tree, but before he could unsling his rifle he was shot dead, and Scanlan shortly afterwards met a similar fate. In the meantime McIntyre had mounted his horse, and dashed down the creek followed by several bullets, which did not, however, touch him, though his horse must have been hit, for it soon gave in and had to be abandoned. As soon as darkness set in, McIntyre took off his boots, in order to make no noise, and on the afternoon of the second day succeeded in reaching a place of refuge, from which he was conveyed to Mansfield. The bodies of the three murdered policemen were afterwards discovered and interred with honour; and a marble monument, erected to their memory by public subscription, stands at the intersection of two of the principal streets of the town of Mansfield. After the outrage just detailed, the assassins betook themselves to the recesses in the ranges, where Superintendent Nicholson, who had already distinguished himself by his gallant capture of the bushranger Power, drew a cordon round the outlaws, by which they were cut off from all supplies, and were forced a few weeks

afterwards to make a break for the open. In doing so they captured the homestead of a squatting station and locked up the inmates; and then, two hours afterwards, they made a descent upon Euroa. Before entering the town, and at a distance of 4 miles from it, they cut the telegraph wires, and stationed a guard to keep watch. Arrived at Euroa, "Ned" Kelly and an accomplice named Stephen Hart, entered the National Bank, and the leader of the "Gang," presenting a revolver at the head of the accountant, entered the manager's room, threatened to shoot him if he as much as stirred, made prisoners of the latter, his wife, his mother, his seven children, two servants, the accountant, and the clerk, and then calmly proceeded to ransack the bank, which contained about £2,000 in notes and cash. They then conveyed the plunder and the whole of the prisoners in a buggy, a spring cart, and a baker's night waggon, to the squatting station previously referred to, where no less than twenty two persons, who had been placed under restraint, were being guarded by a man named Byrne, a fourth member of the marauding band. Finally, at about half-past 7 in the evening, the whole of the prisoners were placed in a hut, and warned not to stir from it at the peril of their lives, until 11 o'clock. The four outlaws, all of whom were well mounted, then rode off with the money they had obtained, and disappeared again for weeks. Meanwhile the Victorian Legislature passed a special Act of Parliament, by which the bushrangers and their numerous confederates and helpers were declared outlaws. Under the provisions of this measure, twenty-one accomplices were arrested, while £8,000 were offered for the apprehension of the "Gang," and black-trackers were imported from Queensland to discover and follow their trail. Suddenly, and without warning, they appeared at Jerilderie, in New South Wales, and plundered the bank there, on the 8th of February, 1879. In the month of June, in the year following, a free selector named Skerritt was shot in his hut at Stanhope, near Beechworth, by "Joe" Byrne. On the 28th of the same month, a detachment of police was sent from Melbourne by special train to Glenrowan, a railway station 40 miles north of Euroa, and reinforcements from Benalla, Beechworth, and Wangaratta brought the force up to thirty. Kelly's party had torn up the rails about a mile and a half beyond Glenrowan, and had taken up a defensive position in a public-house upon which the police opened fire. Suddenly, and to their great surprise, they were attacked from the rear by a man clad in a suit of armour. This was "Ned" Kelly, the outlaw leader. Shots were exchanged between him and the police, and wounded in his arms and legs, which were not armoured, he was seized and disarmed. The siege was maintained throughout the night, but Byrne was shot at about 5 in the morning. At 10, while "Dan" Kelly and "Steve" Hart were defending the back of the premises, thirty men, all of whom had been made prisoners by the bushrangers, rushed out of the front door of the public-house and threw themselves flat upon the ground. A little after 3 in the afternoon, the police set

[illegible] surviving outlaws perished in the flam[illegible] who had been dangerously wounded by [illegible] from an out-house in an insensible [illegible] afterwards. "Ned" Kelly was in [illegible] and hanged. It transpired in the evide[illegible] had stolen upwards of 200 horses, and th[illegible] than £50,000 sterling had to be incur[illegible] to justice.

[illegible] the first Melbourne International Exhi[illegible] Marquis of Normanby. It closed in Ma[illegible] it remained open the admission [illegible] and the receipts amounted to £50,00[illegible] industrial exhibitions in Melbour[illegible] 1861 had been of a purely lo[illegible] 1872 and 1875 respectively, w[illegible]

[illegible] Marquis of Normanby a meas[illegible] reform in the Constitution [illegible] the number of Members fr[illegible] property qualification required fr[illegible] seats, and widened the electo[illegible] person rated on a freehold [illegible] the annual value of £25, bei[illegible] Legislative Council. In Ju[illegible] Ministry was overthrown, and th[illegible] Sir Bryan O'Loghlen.

[illegible] position in March, 1893, but th[illegible] the embittered feelings engendered [illegible] years to subside, and an entire [illegible] political life. A renewed feeling [illegible] when, on the fall of the O'Loghle[illegible] Ministry was formed under Mr. James Servi[illegible] both sides of the Assembly. The t[illegible] Administration were the abolition of t[illegible] Government railways and the abolition [illegible] Public Service. The railways were placed under t[illegible] Commissioners, and the Act doi[illegible] Public Service in regard to appointme[illegible] what the Act itself termed "a great a[illegible] which will enable all persons w[illegible] to enter the Public Servi[illegible] other than their own merits a[illegible]

[illegible] the Victorian Parliament adopted t[illegible] a Federal Council of Australasia, and Vi[illegible] the first meeting of the Council, whi[illegible] January, 1886.

The year 1886 and the following years were somewhat uneventful. The colony was busily engaged expanding its railway system, and pursuing what is known in Australia as a vigorous policy of public works. The Service Ministry was followed in February, 1886, by that of Mr. Duncan Gillies, which lasted 1,722 days, and was next to that of the MacCulloch Ministry (1863-68), the most long-lived of Victorian Administrations, although both the MacCulloch and the Gillies Ministries have been since surpassed by the administration of Sir George Turner. The second Victorian International Exhibition was opened in Melbourne in 1888, and was highly successful. During the same year the number of members of the Legislative Council was increased to forty eight, and of the Assembly to ninety five. The boundaries of the electoral districts of the Assembly were altered, and the number of districts increased to eighty four, so that, with a few exceptions, only one Member should be returned by each constituency. During 1888 Victoria touched its highest point of prosperity, and, judged by the inflow of population, was more attractive to the immigrant from Europe than any other province of Australasia. Population still flowed to the colony during the three following years, but in greatly diminished numbers.

In 1890 there met in Melbourne a conference of delegates from all the provinces to consider the question of Australasian union; it was unanimously agreed that the best interests of the colonies would be promoted by their early union, and the Legislatures of the respective colonies were invited to appoint delegates to a National Convention to report upon a scheme for a Federal Constitution. Agreeably with the resolutions of the Conference, all the provinces appointed delegates to a Convention held in Sydney. The history of this and subsequent Conferences belongs more properly to the history of Australia as a whole than to Victoria, and will be found elsewhere in these pages.

On the 5th November, 1890, Mr. Duncan Gillies ceased to be Premier, and was succeeded by Mr. James Munro, who in turn gave place, in February, 1892, to Mr. Shiels. One of the earliest acts of the new Government was to suspend the Railway Commissioners. The Commissioners were appointed under the Act passed in 1884 to administer the service on business lines, and whatever may have been the contributing causes, their administration was not successful, and the Government considered that the best way to meet the case was to remove the Commissioners of their functions. The Commissioners' suspension lasted from the 17th March till the 7th June, when these officers resigned. An interim arrangement was made by the Government appointing temporary Commissioners, and subsequently the law was altered to that of the railway management being vested in one Commissioner.

In January, 1893, the Shiels Ministry was displaced by that of Mr J. B. Patterson. In April of the same year there was an acute financial panic in Melbourne. Four of the banks and a number of

other financial institutions receiving deposits stopped payment, and business was entirely disorganised. The depositors kept drawing out their deposits even from institutions concerning whose solvency there appeared to have had no doubt; and the Government, in order to allow time to both the public and the banks to consider the position, proclaimed five bank holidays, viz., from the 1st to 5th May. Several of the banks paid no heed to the "moratorium," and conducted their business as usual. The action of the Government was without effect as the run continued, and five other banks suspended payment. The crisis was the most severe trial ever experienced by the colony, and was met by the people of Victoria with unexampled courage. Most of the banks, and some of the financial institutions were reconstructed.

In 1895 an important advance was made towards the federal union of the Australasian colonies by the agreement of the Premiers to commit the duty of framing a Federal Constitution to a convention of delegates from the electors of the various Colonies. An "Enabling Act," to give effect to this decision, was passed by the Victorian Legislature in March, 1896, and the delegates to the Convention were elected on the 4th March of the following year. The referendum in regard to the Bill, drawn up by the Convention, was taken in Victoria on 3rd June, 1898, and the Bill was adopted by 100,520 votes in the affirmative to 22,099 in the negative, but as the Bill failed to obtain the statutory number of affirmative votes in New South Wales it could not be proceeded with. The Convention Bill was amended at a conference of Premiers, held in Melbourne at the end of January, 1899, and the original Bill, with the Premiers' amendments, was adopted by the Victorian electors on the 20th June, 1899. For the Bill 152,635 votes were cast, and against it 9,804.

Mr J. B. Patterson's Ministry lasted from 23rd January, 1893, to 27th September, 1894, and was succeeded by that of Mr (now Sir) George Turner, which continued in office till the 5th December, 1899, a longer period than any previous Ministry. Sir George Turner found the finances of the colony in a condition of disorganisation, and the chief care of the Ministry was to overtake the deficiency left by its predecessors and to keep the expenditure within the income; and in this it was successful. In 1893, the year preceding the accession to office of the Turner Ministry, the expenditure exceeded the revenue by £1,030,521; in 1894 the deficiency fell to £593,432, and in 1895 to £45,787; in 1896 it amounted to £81,500, but in 1897 and 1898 the revenue exceeded the expenditure by £61,285 and £205,796 respectively. The question of finance is, however, dealt with at greater length in its proper place in succeeding pages.

On the 5th December, 1899, a vote of want of confidence was carried against the Ministry of Sir George Turner, and after having held office for a period of 5 years and 70 days it gave place to that of Mr. Allan McLean.

On the 15th November, 1900, Mr McLean's Ministry was overthrown by a motion of censure, and Sir George Turner entered on his short term of Premiership.

The following is the succession of Ministries, with their term of office in each case, from the inception of Responsible Government to the date of the publication of the present volume :—

No. of Ministry	Name	From—	To—	Duration of Office.	
				months.	days.
1	Haines	28 Nov., 1855	11 March, 1857	15	11
2	O'Shanassy	11 March, 1857	29 April, 1857	1	18
3	Haines	29 April, 1857	10 March, 1858	10	12
4	O'Shanassy	10 March, 1858	27 Oct., 1859	19	17
5	Nicholson	27 Oct., 1859	26 Nov., 1860	12	30
6	Heales	26 Nov., 1860	14 Nov., 1861	11	19
7	O'Shanassy	14 Nov., 1861	27 June, 1863	19	13
8	McCulloch	27 June, 1863	6 May, 1868	58	9
9	Sladen	6 May, 1868	11 July, 1868	2	5
10	McCulloch	11 July, 1868	20 Sept., 1869	14	9
11	McPherson	20 Sept., 1869	9 April, 1870	6	19
12	McCulloch	9 April, 1870	19 June, 1871	14	10
13	Duffy	19 June, 1871	10 June, 1872	11	21
14	Francis	10 June, 1872	31 July, 1874	25	21
15	Kerferd	31 July, 1874	7 August, 1875	12	7
16	Berry	7 August, 1875	20 Oct., 1875	2	13
17	McCulloch	20 Oct., 1875	21 May, 1877	19	1
18	Berry	21 May, 1877	5 March, 1880	33	12
19	Service	5 March, 1880	3 August, 1880	4	29
20	Berry	3 August, 1880	9 July, 1881	11	6
21	O'Loghlen	9 July, 1881	8 March, 1883	19	27
22	Service	8 March, 1883	18 Feb., 1886	35	10
23	Gillies	18 Feb., 1886	5 Nov., 1890	56	18
24	Munro	5 Nov., 1890	16 Feb., 1892	15	11
25	Shiels	16 Feb., 1892	23 Jan., 1893	11	7
26	Patterson	23 Jan., 1893	27 Sept., 1894	20	4
27	Turner	27 Sept., 1894	5 Dec., 1899	62	8
28	McLean	5 Dec., 1899	15 Nov., 1900	11	10
29	Turner	15 Nov., 1900	...	...	..

name, and [illegible] up the Bremer, the principal tributary of [illegible] Brisbane, and finding at the head of boat navigation plentiful outcr[illegible] of [illegible] he sent up a party [illegible] quantities of lime were thence [illegible] the buildings of the [illegible] settlement, which had [illegible] and the population of which, at [illegible] time during Logan's time, had risen to between 1,000 and 1,500 [illegible]. These were, however, with the exception of the civil st[illegible] and a [illegible] to preserve order, all prisoners [illegible] permitted to [illegible] or to settle without a special per[illegible]

[illegible] who in company with Oxley, had alrea[illegible] expedition, and had since found th[illegible] the Upper Hunter at the head of [illegible] reaching Brisbane overland along [illegible] his journey, and to avoid having [illegible] spurs and lateral offshoots, he cross[illegible] northward, skirted the Liverpool Plain[illegible] country, he reached the banks [illegible] afterwards discovered and named the Dumares[illegible] who had filled the post of Commissioner [illegible] Company. Cunningham pierced north [illegible] through a belt of very poor country [illegible] June, 1827, on the famous Darling Down[illegible] Governor of New South Wales). This discovery [illegible] a most important influence upon the pastoral [illegible] settlement, and to form a centre round which [illegible] of the future colony of Queensland. On the [illegible] to be shut off from the coastal settlements by [illegible] of mountains. But here fortune favoured the [illegible] done in his discovery of Pandora's Pass [illegible] a gateway through the Liverpool Ranges to the rich [illegible] and on this occasion a route through the mountains [illegible] received the name of Cunningham's Gap. After noting [illegible] of this pass the explorer retraced his steps to Segenhoe [illegible] Upper Hunter, which he had left on the 30th April, [illegible] he had been absent about thirteen weeks. Besides the [illegible] Downs, the most important results of this expedition [illegible] of the streams which are tributary to the Condamine, [illegible], the Gwydir, and the Barwon—in short, of that [illegible] rivers that forms the Upper Darling system and feeds the [illegible]

During the year 1827, Governor Darling came up from Sydney on a [illegible] the settlement at Brisbane, and expressed dissatisfaction with [illegible]. In a subsequent despatch to Lord Goderich he actually [illegible] the abandonment of the place, the tediousness and difficulty [illegible] rendering it extremely inconvenient. He suggested [illegible] of the settlement to Dunwich, a knoll on the bay shore of

...erson Island, and recommended Stradbroke Island as a station for ... reception of prisoners.

... the following year Cunningham, accompanied by Charles Frazer, ... Colonial Botanist, proceeded by sea to Moreton Bay, with the ... of discovering a practicable route to the Darling Downs ... Brisbane. On his arrival, Captain Logan, with characteristic ... ity, organised an expedition, in which he took a leading part, to ... the object of Cunningham's visit. The party attempted, by ... ing up the recently discovered river Logan to its sources in the ...tains, to find a path to the plains beyond the range, but in this ... were unsuccessful, and were compelled to retrace their steps to ... settlement. Thereupon Cunningham made a fresh start from ...stone (Ipswich), on the Bremer, and on this occasion was entirely ...ssful. He found the eastern outlet of the gap which bears his ... and then crossing the range he reached his old camp.

The young colony, deprived of the ministrations of religion during ... first few years of its existence, was in 1828 provided with a ...dain, who after a very brief residence was withdrawn, owing to a ...rence with Commandant Logan.

... 1828 Cunningham went on his third expedition—the last he was ...ed to undertake—in what is now Queensland territory. On this ...sion, after proceeding to Moreton Bay by sea, he devoted six ...ks to the exploration of the Brisbane River, and examined it to its ..., tracing its head waters among the eastern slopes and spurs of ...ran range. In the year 1830 the labours of Commandant Logan ... brought to a tragic close. He had, at the head of a small ...ing party, consisting mainly of prisoners of the Crown, pushed ... beyond the boundaries of location, and was not again seen alive. ...s companions returned to Brisbane with the story that he had left ... alone on a botanising expedition, and had failed to return. ... officer left in charge of the settlement, Captain Clunie (who filled ... position of next commandant), sent out a search party to look for ...absent chief. On the fifth day the searchers found Captain Logan's ... pierced with a spear and battered apparently with waddies, or ...ginal clubs. The genuineness of the evidence was accepted ...out question, and the murder charged to the blacks, though it ...equently leaked out, in half-hinted fashion, that the ill-starred ...an had fallen a victim to the vengeance of his bond followers. ...an's remains were brought to Sydney and interred with military ...rs at Garden Island, in the same tomb as that in which were ...ited those of Judge Bent, a friend of his early youth. Somewhat ... fifteen years after Logan's death the Colonial Office granted his ... a pension of £70 a year, in recognition of her husband's ...ces. Under Logan's directions some experiments had been tried, ... some progress had been made in the cultivation of cotton. A ... sent to the Colonial Office in 1828 showed that a bag of cotton ... to London from Moreton Bay was of excellent quality.

[illegible] of the 17th Regiment, succeeded to the control [illegible] Bay as it continued to be called, and the [illegible] administration is little more than a record of offences [illegible] and the degrading details of prison management and [illegible]

[illegible] population had risen to 1,241, of whom 1,066 were [illegible] women. In [illegible] there were 1,128 bond males [illegible] bond females and [illegible] free. Four years later the [illegible] had been reduced to 30[illegible]. Governor Sir Richard [illegible] of Brisbane [illegible] as a place of penal settlement [illegible] against the locality [illegible] and he prepared [illegible]

[illegible] James Backhouse and [illegible] engaged in a [illegible] antipodes, seeking [illegible] of religion, to [illegible] sentence. After [illegible] account of their [illegible] circumstances, he [illegible] in a field at [illegible] instances [illegible] It must [illegible] a period when [illegible] fewer than [illegible] even in [illegible]

[illegible] to diminish [illegible] the settle[illegible] Captain [illegible] from [illegible] the rapidly [illegible] Lieutenant [illegible] at Moreton Bay. He [illegible] of clearing away [illegible] settlement was [illegible] first free set[illegible] against free settlers [illegible] country around [illegible] enterprising [illegible] who had arrived in Sydney [illegible] the "James [illegible] Moreton Bay. Soon after [illegible] as far as the [illegible] Moreton District, and made some

nant discoveries of indigenous flora. During one of his expe
Petrie effected a landing about half way between Moreton Bay
he entrance to Wide Bay, and there found a convict absconder
d Bracefield (called by the natives "Wandi"), living in savagery
the blacks. With Bracefield's assistance Petrie found another
convict who had escaped from the settlement so long before that
d almost forgotten his own language. His name was James Davis,
wise "Durramboi," and the story of his experiences among the
anes is of the most interesting character. Andrew Petrie was for
time acting as foreman of works of the Royal Engineers Depart
at Brisbane, and his knowledge of the country acquired in this
was of the greatest assistance to the first free settlers. During
ear 1840 Surveyor Stapleton and his assistant were murdered by
anes near the head waters of the Logan. The culprits were
ed in the following year, and, after trial, were found guilty and
ed. But this was only one of a series of similar outrages, the
in the earlier days of free settlement in Queensland being
ularly troublesome. In 1840 Patrick Leslie crossed the Great
ing Range through Cunningham's Gap, and formed a station on
Condamine River, and in the following two years a great deal
ful exploration was carried out by the brothers Stewart and
ham Russell in the Darling Downs, Wide Bay, and Moreton
icts. New South Wales squatters followed in their wake, and
country was taken up and utilised for the depasturage of sheep
attle. In 1841 the population of Moreton Bay numbered exactly
and of these only 67 were free. This enumeration probably
ded a little colony established by grudging permission within
ts of the penal settlement as a Christian mission to the
ves. The colony was exclusively German, and included two
r ministers and some peasants and tradesmen, with their
es. The Colonial Office allowed them £1,298 in four years for
aintenance of 19 adults and 11 children. No good accrued to
Germans from their ministration, as the blacks fought them
ad of listening to them, and on one occasion the missionaries were
to defend themselves with their muskets against their assailants.
ement and being withdrawn, the mission collapsed as a religious
, and became a purely secular settlement. The German station
s an outlying suburb of Brisbane, where some of the mission
n buildings may still be seen, while the descendants of the
al party are numerous among the citizens. A contemporaneous
n of similar character, established by the Rev. Mr. Handt, of the
h of England, was also fruitless in the prosecution of the work
Christianising the aboriginal natives. Indeed the blacks at this
were too warlike to tolerate white approach in any guise.

1842 Governor Gipps, of New South Wales, visited Brisbane,
and to have given directions to reduce the width of the streets
subsequent surveys—a very short-sighted policy. His Excellency

Thereupon the squatters assembled in force to make reprisals, and organised a foray upon the plunderers. They found the tracks of the natives, and, following them up, forced the band to disperse and take refuge on Hay's Peak. Many of the natives were killed, but the survivors remained untamed: and it was found necessary to employ a detachment of soldiers as a permanent guard at the foot of the main range, in order to assure the safety of the travellers by this route. Elsewhere, however, the blacks could not be kept under control, and the early forties were marked by murders of settlers—men, women, and children—and wholesale outrage, incendiarism, and pillage.

Late in the year 1845 Major Sir Thomas Mitchell, Surveyor-General of New South Wales, started out on his famous exploration of tropical Australia, at the head of a little army. Edmund Kennedy was his second in command, and he took with him besides a surgeon, twenty-eight men, eight bullock drays, three horse drays, and two boats. He was absent about a year, and discovered many splendid rivers and a great deal of fine country: and his expedition did much to enlarge the geographical knowledge of Central Queensland.

The first Queensland newspaper, the "Moreton Bay Courier," began publication in 1846, and still exists as the "Brisbane Courier." Communication by steamer between the capital and Ipswich was established about the same time: and Moreton Bay was declared a port of entry, with resident Customs Officers.

At this time Mr Gladstone essayed the formation of a colony at Port Curtis, to be called North Australia, to consist of "exiles," or criminals who had merited by good behaviour some alleviation of their lot, and Colonel Barney was sent out to establish this probationary penitentiary. However, the scheme fell through, and Barney was re-called.

Leichhardt again took the field, and left Jimbour Station, Darling Downs, in the month of December, 1846, just as Sir Thomas Mitchell was returning from his expedition to Tropical Australia. Leichhardt's intention was to cross the Continent from east to west, making for the settlement at Swan River, in Western Australia. The attempt, however, ended in failure: dissensions broke out among the explorers, the party became fever-stricken, a flock of goats had to be abandoned, most of the bullocks and some of the horses and mules were lost, and a retreat had to be made to the confines of settlement. Another expedition, made by Leichhardt to the Fitzroy Downs, discovered by Mitchell, was also unsuccessful in its results. A Government Surveyor named Burnett made a useful journey of exploration in 1847, which added greatly to the knowledge of the country forming the hinterland of Wide Bay. The Burnett River bears this explorer's name. In 1847, Edmund Kennedy was sent out to trace the course of the Barcoo of Mitchell, and to determine whether or not it was identical with the Cooper's Creek of Sturt. Kennedy soon set this question at rest, and discovered on his own account the Thompson, one of the principal affluents of the Barcoo, or Victoria.

[illegible] Leichhardt once more [illegible] out this time he [illegible] in all save live st[illegible] to realise his gre[illegible] than that he [illegible] expedi[illegible] Edmund Kenn[illegible] white [illegible] boy and tw[illegible] the leader [illegible]

[illegible] to act as shep[illegible] earth of this [illegible] colonists of a [illegible] foreraction of [illegible] most leader[illegible] visited Bri[illegible] to the young [illegible] promoter of [illegible] with the author[illegible] under his auspi[illegible] Valley, now a well [illegible]

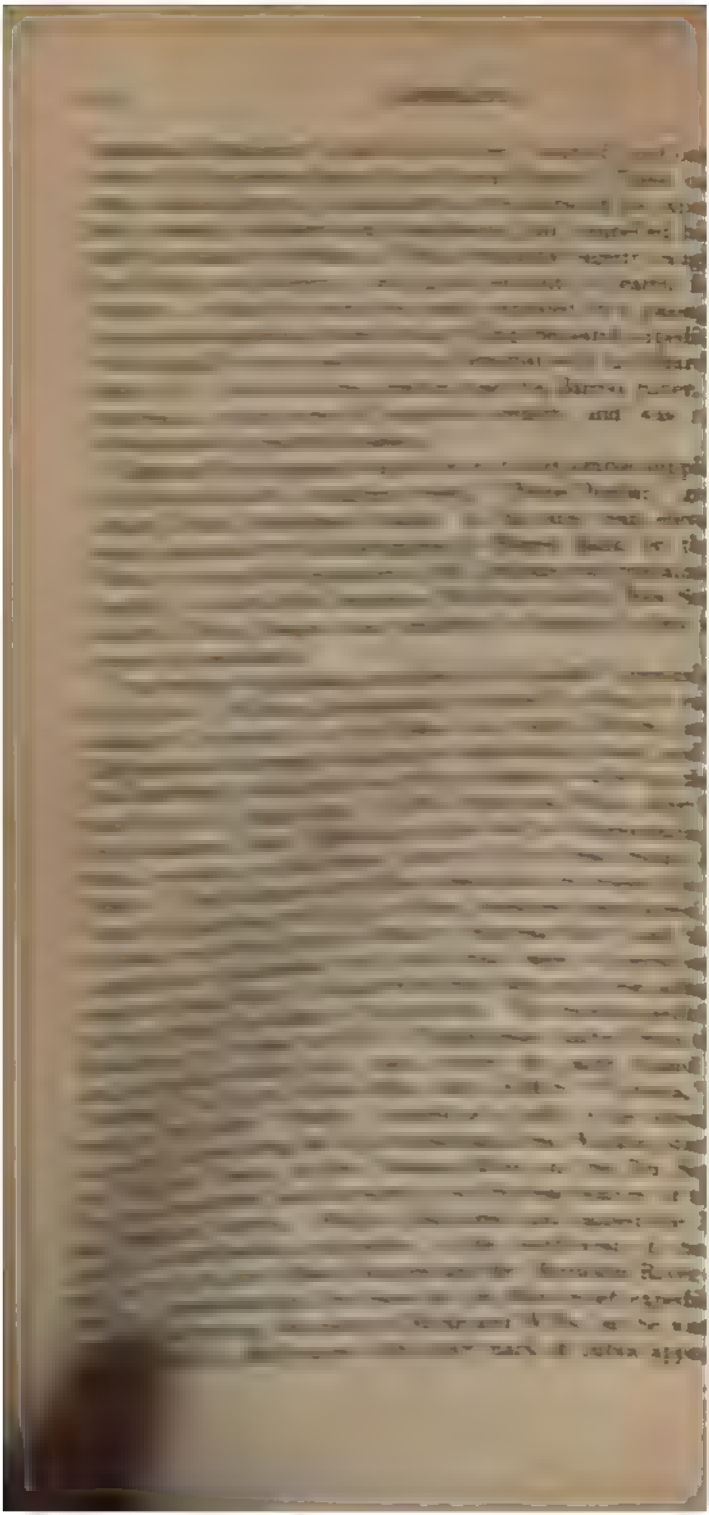
[illegible] the settlement is [illegible] who were desiro[illegible] cheap labour, [illegible] were decidedly averse [illegible] between the two [illegible] young colony, was the [illegible] Government. T[illegible] matter was conv[illegible] inaugurated was co[illegible] granting of separation [illegible] bay was raised to the [illegible] Magistrate, Captain Wi[illegible]

[illegible] there was a heavy [illegible] to Victoria. As ha[illegible] of all kinds was par[illegible] themselves organis[illegible] all parts [illegible] to be gold b[illegible] made at th[illegible] believed that no[illegible] the precious met[illegible] in the magn[illegible] the Crowlon, the Hodgkins[illegible]

mer, the Etheridge, the Gilbert, the Woolgar, Mount Morgan, and nous other rich finds. In course of time people recovered their posure, and enterprise again flowed in its ordinary channels. The tivation of cotton was attempted, but not on a large scale; the l measures on the banks of the Brisbane and the Bremer were rked with redoubled energy, and wheat growing and arrowroot ture were begun.

The aborigines continued to give trouble to the settlers in the ther districts. On one occasion four or five hundred natives mbined to attack a station in the Maranoa District, and were beaten while attempting to storm the hut in which the hands had sembled themselves. In 1851, the first wool ship from Moreton Bay led direct to London, and in the same year Brisbane became a ce for holding a Circuit Court. The Judge sat in the chapel of the convict barracks, an apartment which, after separation, was used a Legislative Assembly Chamber; and again, until its demolition, constituted the Supreme Court of Queensland.

The non-return of Leichhardt was a matter of grave anxiety to the onists, and the most circumstantial rumours reached them that the ored explorer had met with an untimely end. These rumours came so prevalent and disquieting that at length Hovenden Hely, a ner officer of the ill-starred Leichhardt, was sent out in January, 52, to search for the missing expedition. He effected, however, thing; and, his provisions running short, he was compelled to beat a reat to the settlements. In 1855, A. C. Gregory took up the solution the mystery of the interior, and made extensive explorations in north- st Australia and the country around the Gulf of Carpentaria: but, as as the fate of Leichhardt was concerned, he was equally unsuccessful. In the year 1855, the Fitzroy River was first navigated, and the ecent country speedily taken up by the squatters. At Canoona, a tion only 7 miles distant from the point of debarkation, a patch of alluvial gold deposits was subsequently found, and the discovery so exaggerated by rumour, that a fleet of vessels from all the ports in tralasia made a speedy appearance in Keppel Bay, conveying an mense rush of diggers and adventurers from all quarters, even New aland being represented. A township immediately sprang up; but the payable gold was soon exhausted, and starvation stared thousands adventurers in the face. The country around was scoured for the cious metal, and was declared barren, though since then thousands ounces have been taken from it. The diggers were at their wits' when the Governments of New South Wales and Victoria atched steamers to take away such as had been unable to leave at r own cost, or with the help of the friends they had left behind them. The memory of the lost Leichhardt was suddenly revived, in 1857, the curious story told by a convict named Garbut, who had been a ative bushman, and who offered the disclosure of a great secret as the e of his liberty. He stated that he had paid a visit, far beyond the



A noteworthy expedition of this period was that of the brothers, Frank and Alexander Jardine, who essayed the transport of a mob of cattle to Somerset, Cape York, and who literally fought their way through hordes of hostile blacks, ultimately arriving at their destination in safety. In 1866, a man named Hume, pretending to have authentic information concerning the fate of Leichhardt, managed to induce a couple of believers to accompany him to Cooper's Creek. Reaching the creek the travellers for four days journeyed inwards without water, and then they separated, each man hunting for the precious fluid by himself. One was fortunate enough to find water, and returned to the rendezvous only to discover that his comrades had departed; so he went on to a station for help. Searchers sent out with succour found the body of Hume beside that of his horse, which he had killed in order to drink its blood. The corpse of the other man was afterwards discovered in another direction. Some years later a person named Southorpe, frontier bushman and squatter, also professed to have found relics of the lost explorer, but he never suffered them to be seen, and his assertions were received with incredulity.

The Royal Letters Patent creating the colony of Queensland were issued, as already mentioned, on the 13th May, 1859. The first Governor appointed by the Crown to the superintendence of the young province was Sir George Ferguson Bowen, who arrived in Brisbane by the war corvette "Cordelia," on the 10th December, 1859, and, on landing, formally proclaimed the colony, amidst universal jubilation.

The territory over which Governor Bowen had been appointed to rule was noble as regards area and magnificent in point of resources. It extended for 1,300 miles from north to south, and 900 miles from east to west, including great varieties both of soil and climate, and furnishing the products both of the temperate and torrid zones. It occupied the north-eastern portion of the continent, and comprised an area of 668,497 square miles, being thus more than twice the size of New South Wales and nearly eight times that of Victoria.

Besides the Royal Letters Patent creating the colony and appointing its Governor, there was a second order which invested His Excellency with specific powers to make laws and provide for the administration of justice, while the Governor of New South Wales was empowered to create a nucleus of a local Parliament by appointing for four years such persons as he might deem qualified to sit in the new Legislative Council. The Governor of Queensland was charged with the task of completing the *personnel* of the Council by additional nominations of members with life tenure. With respect to the election of members to form the representative chamber, the Legislative Assembly, the franchise was limited to such residents as had at least the qualification of a £10 annual settler's tenancy. Great dissatisfaction was expressed in the new colony at the exclusion from its territorial area of the rich territory comprising the Clarence, the Richmond, and the New England Districts, and, for years after, this north-eastern portion of the mother

[illegible] of quickly subsiding agitation fo[illegible]

[illegible] at the date of its separation wa[illegible] was almost the only one deserv[illegible] cultivation of maize and [illegible] of coal pits of small [illegible] and in the colony were [illegible] population was increas[illegible] of the establishment of [illegible] town in the colony to the [illegible] could approach and there [illegible] territory, although the city [illegible] on the 6th September [illegible]

[illegible] G. W. Herbert, who had, like [illegible] secretary to Mr. Gladstone, [illegible] to act as Colonial [illegible] to England some few years [illegible] secretary of the Colonial [illegible] were held early [illegible] on the 29th of May, [illegible] when Captain Cook [illegible]

[illegible] Ministry legislation [illegible] was adopted. The [illegible] administration delegated [illegible] made for the latter by afford[illegible] under trustees, with [illegible] On the 6th November, 1860, [illegible] laws of equal import[illegible] providing for municipal [illegible] estate the latter founded on [illegible] was taken on the 7th of April, [illegible] of the colony was found to be [illegible] despatched on the 10th of the [illegible] Regina v. Pugh) took place in [illegible] right of free discussion, and [illegible] The first Queensland Exhibition [illegible] year.

[illegible] of Moreton Bay with New South [illegible] were constantly being poured into [illegible] perforce, to be content with an [illegible] of separate Government, Queens[illegible] immigration system, selecting Mr. [illegible] efficient agent, to advocate in [illegible] as a sphere for enterprise. Special [illegible] the Legislature to desirable immigrants.

To those who defrayed the cost of their own passages orders were granted available in payment for lands, representing to each adult £18 on arrival, and £12 additional after two years residence, two children being accepted as equal to one adult. An extensive traffic in these soon immediately sprang up. The newly-arrived immigrants uncertain what to proceed or how to act under their altered condition of life, were easily persuaded to sell their orders at less than their value, and the purpose for which they were issued was thus defeated, while the newcomers drifted into hired service or hung about the towns; though a certain proportion did take up land and settle down. Later on a Land Act was passed which made provision for the establishment of agricultural reserves, each containing 100 acres, at East and West Moreton, Wide Bay, Port Curtis and Keppel Bay, and reservations for settlement 10 miles in extent, were to be defined within 5 miles of every town of 400 inhabitants. These lands were made available to selectors at £1 an acre, payable by instalments. As a result of its immigration policy the colony soon received a large accession to its population, in the first four years alone the number added was not less than 46,422.

During the first years of responsible government the pastoral industry was exceedingly prosperous. Settlers were constantly pushing forward the frontiers of settlement, though greatly harassed by the hostility of the aboriginal inhabitants. Murders by the blacks of solitary shepherds and struggling stockmen were constantly being reported, without, however, exciting much more than passing interest and annoyance. The country was greatly shocked, therefore, when a massacre occurred on a large scale, and a whole family named Wills, together with their station hands, nineteen persons in all, were slaughtered by the aborigines in one night. This outrage was followed by an act of vengeance on the whites the police, assisted by volunteers, killing some 170 aborigines whom they pursued to the Mulway Ranges.

In 1861, Governor Bowen paid a visit to Cape York with the object of selecting a station to replace that so long uselessly maintained at Port Essington. Nearly every commander of a Queen's ship exploring on the coast lying to the northward of the colony had condemned it, and expressed a preference for Port Albany. His Excellency confirmed their recommendations, and appointed as Government Resident Mr. Jardine, who was established with a small detachment of marines at Somerset, a harbour of refuge on the inner side of Albany Island. By this time pastoral settlement had spread all along the coast as far north as Rockhampton, inland, the Thompson River was being rapidly occupied; and northward, the country watered by the Flinders River; the Plains of Promise were occupied by cattle, and the hinterland of the Gulf of Carpentaria was rapidly taken up for squattages. Extensive deposits of copper ore had been discovered in the Peak Downs District, and active mining operations were proceeding.

The second Parliament met on the 22nd July, 1863, and did not dissolve until the 29th May, 1867, and, during the greater part of its

waves of depression which, from time to time, afflict the commercial operations of the world. Its effects were felt with emphatic severity in Queensland; prices of pastoral products fell; the banks stopped the granting of credit and called in their advances. Parliament naturally turned its hand against the Herbert Ministry which was driven from office. The new Ministry was led by the Hon. Arthur Macalister, and attempted to stem the torrent of disaster, but confusion reigned supreme, and after six months it was swept aside. The Hon. Robert Herbert again essayed the task of governing the country and again succumbed after three weeks' trial. On the 7th August Macalister once more accepted office amid the wildest public panic. The failures in Great Britain of the banking firm of Overend Gurney, and the great contracting firm of Peto, Brassey, and Betts, who had the contract for the railway then being constructed, and also for the Victoria bridge, had greatly intensified the crisis in Queensland, but it was hoped that the storm might be weathered with the help of a freshly authorised loan. The Sydney agency of the Agra and Masterman's Bank had already undertaken to make the necessary advances, when the news from London of the collapse of that institution brought total wreckage in its train. The Bank of Queensland closed its doors, investment society after investment society rapidly went to the wall, insolvencies followed each other in bewildering succession, and the whole fabric of social polity seemed to be absolutely disintegrating. The Treasury was totally depleted—trust funds, savings banks deposits, and ordinary revenue had alike disappeared. Tenants ceased to pay their rents, and thousands were discharged from employment, or had to forego the receipt of their salaries; even the navvies engaged in railway construction were turned adrift by the contractors who could no longer pay their wages. The discharged navvies thereupon rallied in a menacing body, seized a train going to Ipswich, and marched upon the city of Brisbane, heralded by rumours of the most alarming description. Reports circulated among the citizens that the malcontents had sworn to loot the shops and the banks, to burn down Government House, and to hang the Ministers of the Crown. The members of the Government were panic-stricken, and behaved as if they were demented, their abject terror serving only to augment the public alarm. The police were, however, armed, and the members of the Civil Service provided with batons, and sworn in as special constables. Many citizens were also sworn in, but the only things served out to them for the protection of the community were badges and rosettes. When the navvies arrived they were found to number only 125 very weary famished men, but they were speedily reinforced by many of the local unemployed. The Riot Act was read, the police loaded their rifles with ball cartridges, and the men were headed off to a vacant reserve on the bank of Woodmill Hill, where they were furnished with food and shelter by the Roman Catholic Bishop and others. Employment was found for them on relief works, where they received 5s. a day and rations, and the difficulty was tided over.

This diversion gained for the Ministry a little breathing [illegible] which they [illegible] to make immediate use. Parliamentary [illegible] was obtained and £[illegible] of Treasury bills at short dates, and [illegible] per cent interest, were issued, and realised £298,671, thus [illegible] of the total [illegible] which apparently was imminent. One [illegible] thousand pounds of Treasury notes of £1 each, serving alike [illegible] the Government and as a currency, were also put into circ[illegible] [illegible] were resorted to in order to avert financi[illegible] [illegible] Kanakas to work on the sugar [illegible] [illegible] the colony, and the germ of [illegible] [illegible] which was destined to [illegible] [illegible] in later years of development. In the [illegible] [illegible] James Nash, while wandering [illegible] [illegible] of gold, and in a day or [illegible] [illegible] the precious metal to represent a value [illegible] [illegible] soon became known far and wi[illegible] [illegible] to the authorities. Nash led th[illegible] [illegible] the whole population of Maryboro[illegible] [illegible] The whole of Queensland w[illegible] [illegible] of impoverished settlers gathered to th[illegible] [illegible] unearthed the Curtis nugget, containing [illegible] [illegible] a tremendous influx of diggers set in [illegible] [illegible] and New Zealand. The town of Gympie [illegible] [illegible] in the neighbourhood were found to [illegible] [illegible] The discovery was opportune, and [illegible] [illegible] hopes of the colonists. The field was situated [illegible] [illegible] of Brisbane, and has since proved one of th[illegible] [illegible] producing centres of the colony.

[illegible] Macalister *regime* a Stamp Duties Act was passe[illegible] [illegible] dealing with the alienation of the Crown [illegible] [illegible] of the general election failed to confirm Mr Macal[illegible] [illegible] Ministry was succeeded by that of the Hon. Rob[illegible] [illegible] who retaining office for a little more than a year, ap[illegible] [illegible] and, on the meeting of the fourth Parliamen[illegible] [illegible] In spite of the political instability, the colony was now [illegible] [illegible] The new Land Act gave greater fac[illegible] [illegible] the sugar industry began to give signs of impo[illegible] [illegible] the languishing cotton plantations. By the end of [illegible] [illegible] in the colony twenty-eight sugar-mills at work.

Sir George Bowen surrendered his office just on the eve of th[illegible] [illegible] and financial confidence, leaving the colony on th[illegible] [illegible] 1868. The Government was administered till the 14th A[illegible] [illegible] by the Hon. Colonel (afterwards Sir) Maurice C[illegible] [illegible] President of the Legislative Council. Sir George Bo[illegible] [illegible] Colonel Samuel Wensley Blackall, assumed the responsib[illegible] [illegible] on the 14th August, 1868.

The Hon. Charles Lilley's Ministry succeeded that of Mr. Mackenzie on the 20th November, 1868, and lasted till the end of May, 1870. During its term of office the Civil Service Act was repealed, a number of measures dealing with court procedure were passed, and amendments were made in the electoral laws. The tenure of pastoral leases was changed by making provision for the resumption, at the discretion of the Government, of lands as required for settlement, subject, however, to the approval of Parliament.

During Sir Maurice O'Connell's administration, and early in the year 1868, the Duke of Edinburgh, who was making the tour of the Australasian Colonies, paid a visit to Brisbane, and was received with great enthusiasm.

The colony continued to advance, and it owed no little of its prosperity to the successive discoveries of gold made within its borders. One after the other, the new fields afforded scope to the energies of the digger, and opened up fresh avenues for the employment of the capital of the speculator. Ravenswood, the Cape River, the Gilbert, the Etheridge, Charters Towers, and Cloncurry, are all gold bearing areas, and worked, were opened up about this period, and attracted population and capital investment. There was, however, the germ of future trouble which became more serious as the years went by. This was the presence among white people of an alien and coloured race. The expansion of the sugar industry had created a demand for cheap labour, available for employment on the plantations. An old South Sea whaling Captain, named Robert Towns, who had accumulated great wealth in trading with the South Sea Islanders prior to settling in Sydney, was among the earliest to engage in sugar-cane growing on a large scale. He first took up a plantation on the Logan River, but is best known as the founder of Townsville. With a view to working his plantation more cheaply he quickly brought to the colony a shipload of Kanakas, as the South Sea Islanders are termed, and it was not long before other planters began to follow his example. In 1868, an attempt was made to legislate restrictively with regard to the traffic in this class of labour; but the sugar interest had become politically powerful, and the Legislature confined its action to passing an Act to regulate recruiting for labour in the South Seas, and the conditions of the contracts made with the Islanders. The early records of "black-birding" cruises, and the scandal connected with the *Hopeful* case, have cast a cloud of suspicion upon the entire system. The ships of Her Majesty's Navy exercise with severe scrutiny the doings of the labour boats, and the white workers in the colony resent the competition and the presence among them of an inferior and an alien race. They allege that cheapness is the only cause of the employment of savages in a civilised community, and the capitalists retort that the work is such that Europeans could not perform it, and that the employment of Kanakas has enabled an industry to be developed, which otherwise, like the cultivation of cotton, would not be possible—an industry, moreover, which indirectly

furnishes employment to large numbers of white labourers in other departments of production and distribution. Some notion of the proportions rapidly attained by the traffic in South Sea Island labour may be formed from a consideration of the fact that in 1868 (when official statistics first became available) six vessels brought 437 males and two females; in 1869 five ships brought 276 males and two females; and in 1870, nine ships brought 1,294 males and 18 females.

In the year 1869 another step was made in the progress of public instruction, provision being made under State subsidy for secondary education by the establishment of the Brisbane Grammar School. In the month of May, 1870, the Hon. Charles Lilley had no longer the command of a majority in the Legislative Assembly, and resigned. The Hon. (afterwards Sir) Arthur Hunter Palmer was thereupon summoned to form a Ministry, and two months later he obtained a dissolution. On meeting the new Parliament, Mr Palmer found that his policy had been confirmed by a majority of the electors, and he was able to retain office until the 8th January, 1874.

Governor Blackall, the most popular and the most deeply regretted of all the representatives of Royalty who had ruled the colony, died in office on the 2nd January, 1871, and the Government was administered by the Hon. M. C. O'Connell, President of the Legislative Council, until the arrival of the Marquis of Normanby on the 12th August following. In the month of June of the same year, after a life of rather more than six months, the fifth Parliament was dissolved; but the succeeding one, opened in November, brought no change in the administration.

The Queensland National Bank, which has been a fertile source of political trouble, and in connection with which there has been such a vast amount of litigation, was founded in 1871, and was opened on the 2nd of June that year.

In the year 1872 immense deposits of tin were discovered near the south-eastern border of the colony, at a place now famous as Stanthorpe, and almost simultaneously attention was directed to the extensive lodes of copper ore in the Mount Perry Run, Burnett District. The existence of opal in the northern part of Queensland was also brought to light, followed shortly afterwards by the discovery of extensive beds of this gem on the Bulla, in the Warrego District. The mineral discoveries at Stanthorpe and Mount Perry were only the precursors of others equally rich and extensive, and the colonists found that they were dowered with every kind of hidden wealth that only awaited their exploitation. A heavy fall in the market price of tin and copper somewhat checked the extravagances of their day dreams, and great losses were experienced by many who had indulged in too eager speculation. In 1873 the discovery of coal in the Wide Bay District added a further area to the previously known coal measures of the colony; but the mineral discovery of the most sensational character during this year was that of the Palmer goldfield by Mr William Hann, who had been despatched to explore

ect for minerals in the wild country outside the limits of
in the base of the Cape York Peninsula. Mr. Hann had
with him Mr. Taylor, a geologist of established reputation,
Tate accompanied the party in the capacity of botanist.
g was conducted over a very wide area of country, and
portant geographical discoveries were made, one of the most
ing that of the Palmer River, named after the Premier.
pects of gold were found by Mr. Warner, the surveyor of the
a discovery which subsequently resulted in the development
the richest gold-fields in Australia, though the man who
pon it thought himself fortunate in being rewarded by
ne of coarse fig tobacco. In 1873 James Venture Mulligan
e work of prospecting for gold at the point where Hann had
d was fortunate in finding payable "shows" for some 40
he bed of the Palmer River. Acting on Mulligan's advice
nment opened Cooktown, and sent up officers to that
After prospecting and finding gold for 80 miles along the
the Palmer, and for a radius of 40 miles outside the Palmer,
party applied for and obtained the Government reward of
The fame of Cooktown spread far and wide throughout the
orld, and a great "rush" set in, thousands of diggers
to the spot in a fleet of vessels, which were moored or
ored by the estuary of the Endeavour River, where Cook had
s battered barque over a hundred years before. Among the
ame hordes of Chinese, and the friction caused by their
on the field occasioned legislative action, which excluded men
e from all gold-bearing areas until a certain period had
r discovery.
no time Ipswich had been the terminus of the railway nearest
but it was now resolved to remove the absurd anomaly of
metropolis and principal seaport still disconnected from the
rest of the colony, and in January, 1873, the extension of
y from Ipswich to Brisbane was begun. In June of the
Captain Moresby unfurled the Union Jack in New Guinea,
ily read a proclamation taking possession of it in the name
Victoria; his action, however, was not confirmed. During
the blacksmith on board H.M.S. "Basilisk," Captain
vessel, reported the discovery, a few miles inland, of
g quartz. This discovery has since been confirmed by
visits of gold-hunting diggers, particularly to Sudest and
Islands. In the following year the Hon. Henry Parkes, at
Colonial Secretary for New South Wales, addressed a minute
r Robinson, advising that an effort be made towards the
n of New Guinea under British auspices, but no definite
n received from the Home Government.
ge E. Dalrymple was again sent out by the Government in
end his researches along the north-eastern seaboard. He left

Chevert with a party of twenty-six men, including thirteen well armed native troopers, in the cutters "Flying Fish" and "Coquette" — vessels of some 10 or 12 tons burden. He made many and important discoveries, passing and naming rivers, harbours, and headlands, and finding large areas of rich alluvial coast lands, which promised of great subsequent value for the cultivation of tropical products. In 1875 the settlement at Port Albany, lying too far from the route of vessels navigating Torres Straits, was abandoned by the Government, the marines were withdrawn, and a new station was established by the Government of Queensland on Thursday Island, one of the Prince of Wales Group, in Torres Straits, a change which has worked very satisfactorily.

In 1875 the question of the annexation of New Guinea again came to the front, while a large public meeting held at Sydney, in the parent colony, also declared in favour of the proposal. The "Chevert," fitted out by the Hon. William Macleay, M.L.C., to explore south west New Guinea, made no new geographical discoveries, but it brought back an immense collection of specimens of the greatest interest to naturalists.

The Marquis of Normanby had departed from the colony on the 12th November, 1874, and until the arrival of his successor, Mr. William Wellington Cairns, on the 23rd January, 1875, the Government was administered once more by the President of the Legislative Council, the Hon. M. C. O'Connell. Governor Cairns left the colony on the 14th March, 1877, to take up the *rôle* of Administrator of South Australia, and the Hon. M. C. O'Connell filled the vice-regal chair until the 16th of April following, when Sir Arthur Edward Kennedy, G.C.M.G., C.B., took up the responsibilities of Governor. During Sir Arthur Kennedy's absence on leave, from the 19th March, 1880, till the 22nd November of the same year, the Hon. Joshua Peter Bell, President of the Legislative Council, administered the Government. Sir Arthur Kennedy left the colony on the 2nd May, 1883, and the Government was administered by Sir Arthur Hunter Palmer, K.C.M.G., the President of the Legislative Council, until the arrival of the next Governor, Sir Anthony Musgrave.

The most important political event of 1878 was the restriction of Chinese immigration into the colony. At that time it was estimated that there were about 18,000 or 19,000 of these aliens distributed about the various mining fields. At Maytown, in the year 1878, a serious fracas took place amongst the resident Chinese, resulting in the deaths of several of their number.

In the year 1879 Mr. Thomas McIlwraith succeeded the Hon. John Douglas as Premier, and immediately revived the project of a transcontinental railway on the land grant system. The new Ministry had no difficulty in carrying through Parliament a Railway Companies Preliminary Act, which conferred upon the Government power to enter into treaties for the construction of railways, subject, however, to the confirmation by Parliament of any arrangement that might be

made with contracting syndicates. An association of British capitalists was soon negotiating terms with the Government for the construction of the long canvassed line from Charleville to the Gulf of Carpentaria, with a terminal station at Point Parker; and General Fielding was sent out in charge of an expedition of engineers to report upon the proposed route. This report was so favourable that a preliminary agreement was, after some delay, signed and sealed between the Government and the contracting syndicate. The squatting interest in Parliament became alarmed, however, at the large resumption from squattages that a land grant system of railway construction would involve. They, therefore, withdrew their allegiance from the Government and formed a third party. The Opposition was led by Mr. (afterwards Sir) Samuel W. Griffith, a gentleman who was at first favourably inclined towards the land grant railway scheme, but who afterwards opposed it most strenuously. The combination of the regular Opposition and the third party was able to defeat the Government, and the McIlwraith Ministry was succeeded by one led by the Hon. S. W. Griffith.

Before relinquishing his hold of the Colonial Treasurer's portfolio, Mr. McIlwraith made his historical attempt to seize New Guinea in 1883. Tired of long and vain solicitations to Lord Derby, then Secretary of State for the Colonies, to take formal possession of the island, he quietly instructed Mr. Henry M. Chester, the Police Magistrate at Thursday Island, to cross Torres Straits and on behalf of Her Majesty's Government in Queensland, to hoist the British Ensign and proclaim the annexation to the colony of that part of the island not claimed by the Dutch. This proceeding was not authorised by the Colonial Office, and after some hesitation the Imperial authorities repudiated the annexation. Lord Derby, however, in 1884, declared a British Protectorate over a part of unannexed New Guinea, and Germany thereupon seized the remainder. During the McIlwraith Government the Queensland and South Australian boundary was fixed by Messrs. Winnecke and Barclay, two surveyors who had been despatched by the South Australian Government in 1878 to reach the Queensland border from the transcontinental telegraph line. The expedition of 1878 was fruitless, but a second attempt in 1880 proved successful.

Sir Anthony Musgrave, G.C.M.G., who had previously governed South Australia from 1873 to 1877, relieved Sir Arthur H. Palmer of the responsibilities of administration on the 6th November, 1883. During the absence, on leave, of Governor Musgrave from the 19th April to December, 1886, the Government was again administered by Sir Arthur Palmer. During Sir Anthony Musgrave's regime several events of importance occurred. On the 1st October, 1884, one of those sensational "crushings" took place which tend to keep alive and fan to flame the gold-hunter's enthusiasm, no less than 2,249 ounces of the precious metal being obtained at Gympie from 107 tons of stone. The main political event of the year was the meeting at Townsville, the headquarters of the Separationists, of the Separation Convention, on the

10th April. The centralisation of power and influence in the Southern corner of the colony had been productive of discontent in the Central and Northern parts of Queensland, and for years intense agitation was carried on for the division of the territory into three, or at least two, distinct colonies, with separate responsible Governments. In order to promote the objects of the Separation League, a committee was formed in London on the 2nd October, 1885, and the work of agitation was vigorously proceeded with. Railway extension was now being pushed forward rapidly, and various sectional lines were opened and given over to traffic. On the 25th January, 1886, the first meeting of the Federal Council of Australia was held at Hobart, thus preparing the way for what was later on to take form in an earnest movement towards complete federation. Queensland was represented in this and all subsequent meetings of the Council.

Early in 1887 the Queensland Government appointed Mr Clement Wragge to the position of Meteorological Observer, and from that time onward the regular publishing of meteorological data has proved of great advantage not only to the shipping interests of Queensland, but to Australia generally.

The beginning of the year 1888 saw railway communication between Sydney and Brisbane established. During the month of February disastrous floods occurred at Rockhampton, no less than 21 inches of rain falling in a space of time little over twenty-four hours in duration. In the fall of the year Dr. McGregor, appointed Administrator of NewGuinea proclaimed British sovereignty over the British section of the Island.

In 1888 the deaths of two prominent men occurred. The first was that of the Governor, Sir Anthony Musgrave, at the age of 60 years; the second, that of Mr. Frank C. Gregory, at the age of 68. Sir Anthony Musgrave died in office on the 8th October, universally regretted in the colony as a Governor of marked ability, and a gentleman of gracious social manners. Mr. Frank Gregory had accomplished excellent exploratory work in Western Australia. General Sir Henry Wylie Norman succeeded to the Government of Queensland on the 1st May, 1889, and continued in office till the 15th November, 1895.

A terrible marine catastrophe took place on the 28th February, 1890, when the R.M.S. "Quetta" struck upon an uncharted rock off the coast of Northern Queensland. She sank in a few minutes after striking, only 137 persons being saved out of a total of 283. The month of March, 1890, was exceptionally tempestuous. Extensive floods devastated large areas in Queensland and the northern districts of New South Wales, causing fearful damage to property. A terrific hurricane occurred at Townsville, and lasted two days, occasioning great loss of property, both in houses and shipping, and heavy rains and floods in both colonies were attended by serious losses.

The Morehead Ministry, which had succeeded that of Sir Samuel Griffith on the 30th November, 1888, came to a dramatic termination on 7th August, 1890, when it was saved from defeat on a want of con-

fidence motion only by two votes, the number of votes recorded being thirty-five to thirty-three. Five days afterwards the second Griffith Ministry was formed, and Parliament was adjourned until the 16th September.

The year 1890 saw something of a crisis in the industrial history of Australasia. On the 19th August the great maritime strike began in Sydney, and soon became general throughout the colonies. In a previous chapter dealing with New South Wales will be found a short account of the developments in the period of industrial warfare which was ushered in by this episode.

The Queensland Premier, Sir S. W. Griffith, so far entertained the proposals of the Separationist Party—or was so far swayed by their agitation—that he proposed, in the month of November, 1890, to divide the Colony into three semi-independent States.

In March and April, 1891, a parliamentary convention was held in Sydney for the purpose of drawing up a federal constitution. The work of the Convention is elsewhere described.

The squatters, but more particularly the planters, had ever kept a longing and interested eye on cheap alien labour, and it is possible that such industries as the growing of sugar-cane could not be conducted without it. The great bulk of the white labourers, however, held particularly strong views against the introduction of alien races of any kind, but especially of kanakas: and they received, therefore, with no good grace the remarks of Sir Samuel Griffith, when, speaking on the 15th March, 1892, at Maryborough, the centre of a sugar-cane growing district, he advised the re-introduction of Polynesian labourers. The representatives of labour in Queensland entered a vigorous protest against the proposals of the head of the Government, but this protest was of little avail, for, on the 14th April following, the Pacific Labourers (Extension) Bill passed both Houses of Parliament.

On the 14th September, 1892, Mr Justice (afterwards Sir) William Windeyer proceeded to Brisbane at the invitation of the Queensland Government, and by special permission of the Government of New South Wales, and sat in the Supreme Court to adjudicate in the Queensland Investment Company's cases. On the 11th January Sir Samuel Griffith resigned his position as Premier of the Colony to become Chief Justice, the Right Hon. Sir Hugh Miller Nelson, P.C., undertaking the duties of Acting Chief Secretary until the arrival of Sir Thomas McIlwraith from Europe, which event followed on the 19th of the same month.

Terrific storms raged over a great part of Queensland on the 31st January, 1893, the rainfall registering from 3·18 to 4·8 inches in twenty-four hours. From the 4th to the 6th of the following month South-eastern Queensland was devastated by unprecedented floods, Brisbane and Ipswich suffering in particular. The Oxley and Victoria bridges in the metropolis were destroyed, the damage done to property in the city alone being estimated at £2,000,000. South Brisbane was completely isolated by the flood waters. On the 19th February there

was another phenomenal flood, not only in Brisbane, but in Grafton, Lismore, and other north eastern towns of New South Wales, all telegraph lines north of Newcastle being interrupted.

On the 23rd February a Bill for laying a cable between Queensland and New Caledonia was adopted by the French Chamber of Deputies.

The banking crisis that afflicted Australia in 1893 did not spare Queensland. On the 15th May of the year mentioned the Bank of North Queensland and the Queensland National Bank both closed their doors, and, two days after, the Royal Bank of Queensland suspended payment. The Bank of North Queensland re-opened on the 31st July; on the 2nd August the reconstructed Royal Bank of Queensland followed.

As a direct result of the strike of 1890, a movement was set on foot having for its object the founding of a sort of communistic colony, where the settlers should be free from the strife and troubles incidental to existing social conditions. The leader of the movement was a Mr. William Lane, a Brisbane journalist, and he devoted himself with whole-souled energy to preaching the blessings of the new Promised Land, and collecting funds to enable the colony to be started. After much negotiation, the position of the settlement was chosen in Paraguay, in South America, and on the 16th July, 1893, the first detachment of New Australians left Sydney in the "Royal Tar." Other consignments of intending settlers sailed in succeeding ships; but, though the settlement is still in existence, it has, as is usual with such Utopian schemes, fallen sadly short of the ideals which led to its foundation. Some of the disillusioned emigrants were assisted by the Queensland Government to return to their old homes; others managed to get away without assistance, while those that remained were for the most part plunged in continual bickerings with one another. The latest available news gives the number of settlers now at Cosme as eighty three, consisting of twenty nine men, seventeen women, and thirty-seven children. The Government originally granted 25,000 acres to the colony, exempted the settlers from all direct taxation, appointed locally-nominated magistrates, established a postal service, and recently, through the State Bank, supplied, on favourable terms of repayment, machinery for the development of its resources.

The year 1893 was full of interesting events, though none of them of first importance. On the 23rd August a resolution was carried in the Assembly that the question of Separation of Central Queensland should be submitted to a referendum; on the 29th instant, a resolution in favour of a Bill raising the salaries of members from £150 to £300, though opposed by the Government, was carried in the Assembly by 27 votes to 22; on the 18th September, the Governor, Sir Henry Norman, declined the position of Viceroy of India; on the 25th, the bridge over the Logan River, South Queensland, sank bodily for nearly 3 feet while a train was passing over it; on the 13th October, stonewalling of the Sugar Works Guarantee Bill was resorted to all night by the labour

party, to prevent the employment of Asiatics in the mills—the Bill was ultimately read a third time and passed. Towards the close of the year, the cable connecting Bundaberg, Queensland, with New Caledonia, was opened for the transmission of messages.

The angry feelings which had culminated in the Great Strike, and those engendered by this industrial demonstration, urged men from time to time to acts of folly and recklessness. Free labourers were waylaid and maltreated; station buildings were burned down; and various other proceedings, partaking of the nature of serious outrage, were indulged in. On the 13th July, 1894, the Legislative Assembly unanimously carried a motion, "That the time has arrived when Parliament should take steps to prevent industrial disputes." On the 11th September, while the Peace Preservation Bill was being considered in Committee, eight members were removed and suspended for one week. On the following evening, a public meeting was held to criticise the Parliamentary proceedings of the previous night, and a motion was carried condemning—"The unconstitutional manner in which the Coercion Act has been forced through the Legislative Assembly by the Government and their supporters," and expressing sympathy with the suspended members. On the 12th, the Peace Preservation Bill passed through Committee, and the Opposition, with three exceptions, rose in a body and left the Chamber. On the 18th, the suspended members presented themselves in the House as a protest, but were conducted from the precincts of the Chamber by the Sergeant-at-Arms. On the 27th, seven members issued writs against the Speaker, claiming damages for assault, trespass, and false imprisonment, in connection with their suspension, and the first of these cases (Browne *v.* the Speaker) began on the 13th May of the year following. On the 14th November, 1894, the Legislative Council rejected the Payment of Members' Bill on a motion for the second reading by 24 votes to 2. On the 2nd March, 1895, an area of 1,000,000 acres of grazing farm land, hitherto unavailable, was thrown open in Queensland for selection, and attracted a large number of inspectors, some of whom came long distances and from other colonies.

The year 1895, especially the earlier months, had been marked by unusually disastrous weather conditions, causing serious floods and loss of life, especially in the north-east coast districts. Early in the following year there were terrific gales and floods along the northern coasts of Queensland, which wrought considerable damage to shipping and other property. On the 13th February, 1896, a terrible accident occured at Townsville through the capsizing of the ferry steamer "Pearl," twenty-eight lives being lost.

On the 27th March, Lord Lamington, Governor Designate of Queensland, arrived at Thursday Island, on the 9th April he was sworn in at Brisbane. Sir Henry Norman was appointed Agent-General for Queensland on the 25th November of the same year.

It has been mentioned that when Sir Samuel Griffith assumed the position of Chief Justice on the 27th March, 1893, he was succeeded by

Sir Thomas McIlwraith. On the 27th October, 1893, the Hon. H. M. Nelson became Premier, Sir Thomas McIlwraith occupying the position of Chief Secretary and Secretary for Railways in the Ministry. This Administration was succeeded in turn by one under the Premiership of the Hon. T. J. Byrnes, on the 13th April, 1898, and on the 1st October, 1898, the Hon. J. R. Dickson, C.M.G., assumed the Premiership. The Dickson Ministry lasted till the 1st December, 1899, when it was succeeded by a Labour Administration under the leadership of Mr. Dawson. The term of office of this Ministry, however, was exceedingly short, as it collapsed on the 7th December, 1899, on which date the Ministry of the Hon. R. Philp was inaugurated, and is still in office at the date of publication of this work. In July, 1900, one of the most notable figures in Queensland history passed away, in the person of Sir Thomas McIlwraith, who was Premier and Colonial Treasurer during the period from 1879 to 1883, and was also the head of the Ministry in 1888 and 1893. Amongst the more noteworthy of his political acts was the annexation of New Guinea, which, had it been confirmed by the Imperial Government, would certainly have prevented the firm foothold which Germany acquired not only in New Guinea but throughout the Western Pacific.

In the following table will be found a list of the Ministries which have held office in Queensland from the inauguration of responsible Government up to the date of publication of this volume:—

No. of Ministry	Name.	Period of Office.		Duration.	
		From—	To—	Months.	Days.
1	Herbert	10 Dec., 1859	1 Feb., 1866	73	22
2	Macalister	1 Feb., 1866	20 July, 1866	5	19
3	Herbert	20 July, 1866	7 Aug., 1866	0	18
4	Macalister	7 Aug., 1866	15 Aug., 1867	12	8
5	Mackenzie	15 Aug., 1867	25 Nov., 1868	15	10
6	Lilley	25 Nov., 1868	3 May, 1870	17	8
7	Palmer	3 May, 1870	8 Jan., 1874	44	5
8	Macalister	8 Jan., 1874	5 June, 1876	28	28
9	Thorn	5 June, 1876	8 Mar., 1877	9	3
10	Douglas	8 Mar., 1877	21 Jan., 1879	21	13
11	McIlwraith	21 Jan., 1879	13 Nov., 1883	57	23
12	Griffith	13 Nov., 1883	13 June, 1888	55	0
13	McIlwraith	13 June, 1888	30 Nov., 1888	5	17
14	Morehead	30 Nov., 1888	12 Aug., 1890	20	13
15	Griffith	12 Aug., 1890	27 Mar., 1893	31	15
16	McIlwraith	27 Mar., 1893	27 Oct., 1893	7	0
17	Nelson	27 Oct., 1893	13 April, 1898	53	17
18	Byrnes	13 April, 1898	1 Oct., 1898	5	18
19	Dickson	1 Oct., 1898	1 Dec., 1899	14	0
20	Dawson	1 Dec., 1899	7 Dec., 1899	0	6
21	Philp	7 Dec., 1899			

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

IN 1834 a Colonisation Committee, called the "South Australian Association, was formed. It consisted, in the first instance, of twenty-nine gentlemen, all of whom occupied leading positions, eighteen being Members of the House of Commons. A Bill for the colonisation of South Australia, promoted by this Committee, was introduced and passed the House of Commons with the support of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and on the last day of the session of 1834 it received the Royal Assent.

The Act under which South Australia was founded empowered the Crown to erect "one or more provinces" in that part of Australia lying between the 132nd and the 141st meridians of east longitude, and between the 26th parallel of south latitude and the Southern Ocean. It further enacted that all persons residing within the said province or provinces should be free,—"not subject to the law or Constitution of any other part of Australia, but bound by only those which should be constructed especially for their own territory." The measure provided that the entire proceeds of sales of land in that portion of Australia should be devoted to the transportation of labourers from the mother country, but that no convicts should at any time be sent to this favoured colony; and that a Constitution should be granted to the inhabitants as soon as they numbered 50,000 souls.

As the Commissioners were restrained from entering upon the exercise of their general powers until they had invested £20,000 in Exchequer Bills, or other securities, and until land to the value of £35,000 had been sold, in order to secure the mother country from expense in founding and governing the new colony, there was some delay and hitch at the beginning of the new establishment, and fears were entertained as to the ability of the Commissioners to dispose of a sufficient quantity of land to realise the required sum. At the outset the price of land had been set at £1 per acre, and each land-order was for 80 acres of country land and 1 acre of town land, the price for the whole being £81. At about this juncture the "South Australian Company" was formed, under the inspiring direction of George Fife Angas, with a large capital, intended for employment in the progress and development of the colony. This association offered to purchase at once the remaining lots of land at an upset price of 12s. per acre. The

Commissioners accepted the proposition, but, in order to act fairly by their former clients, allowed those who had paid for 80 acres of land at £1 per acre to receive 134 acres at 12s. per acre.

To Edward Gibbon Wakefield belongs the merit of devising this new method of colonisation. The essential principle of his scheme was that land should be exchanged for labour, instead of being given away or alienated for a merely nominal sum. The colony should, in short, be self supporting from the very first, and a revenue created by the sale of the waste or unappropriated lands within it, which revenue should be used as an immigration fund; the price of land should, moreover, be fixed sufficiently high to secure a constant supply of hired labour for its cultivation. In South Australia the land was sold in unconditional and absolute fee simple, without reserve for any purpose. The three fundamental principles upon which the colony was founded were self-support, anti-transportation, and the voluntary principle as applied to religion.

The required quantity of land having been sold, and the investment of £20,000 in Exchequer bills completed, the Commissioners began their arrangements for the founding of the colony. In the first place the Governorship of the new community was offered to Sir Charles James Napier—"the Conqueror of Scinde"; but this gentleman wanted a military establishment, and power to draw upon the Home Government for funds in case of emergency; and as the Colony was intended to be self-supporting, his demands could not, of course, be complied with. He thereupon declined the proffered honour, and Captain Hindmarsh, R.N., a bluff, typical British seaman, was gazetted to the post on the 4th February, 1836.

In the meantime the despatch of emigrants had begun. the first vessel the "Duke of York," arriving on the 29th July, 1836, and casting anchor in Nepean Bay. The first person to set foot on shore in the new colony, was also the youngest member of the party, named the infant daughter of Mr. Beare, the second officer. Other vessels began to arrive in fairly quick succession; and Kangaroo Island being the better known than any portion of the mainland, steps were accordingly taken by the Company's agents to make the settlement there. On the 19th August, 1836, Colonel Light arrived at Kangaroo Island in the "Rapid," and at once assumed command of the expedition. His first work was the selection of a site for the settlement—a task he set about with unusual care. After examining Kangaroo Island and various places on the shores of the Gulf of St. Vincent, he turned his attention to Port Lincoln in Spencer's Gulf, but without discovering any locality suitable for the establishment of a large settlement. He ultimately decided upon the arm of the sea upon which Port Adelaide is situated, and here he fixed the site of the colony's chief town.

Governor Hindmarsh arrived in the "Buffalo" in Holdfast Bay on the 28th December of the same year, and at 3 o'clock in the afternoon under the shade of gum-trees a short distance from the beach

preceded with the ceremony of the swearing in of himself, the members of his Council, and other officers, and the reading of his Commission to the settlers, of whom there were present about three hundred. The Union Jack was then hoisted with the usual accompaniment of a Royal salute; the marines who formed the Governor's escort fired a *feu-de-joie*; the "Buffalo," lying in the offing, saluted with fifteen guns, and the foundation of the Colony of South Australia was an accomplished fact.

From the inauguration of the new settlement there was a lack of cordial relations between the administrative bodies. The Governor, the Resident Commissioners, and the Surveyors-General had each large and administrative powers, and in exercising them there was mutual interference, producing dissension and collision most injurious to the prospects of the colony. The leading subject of dispute was the site of the chief town of the settlement, the Governor and Judge Jeffcott and some of their friends, having regard to the commercial capabilities of the River Murray, wished the capital to be situated at Encounter Bay; others, again, bearing in mind its splendid harbour, voted unanimously for Port Lincoln. Colonel Light was inexorable. He had examined the coast carefully. Kangaroo Island and Port Lincoln had successively been abandoned on account of their unhealthiness. Adelaide, in its present position, he considered an ideal site. The river Torrens flowed through it and supplied water in abundance, the surrounding country was level and fertile, well-timbered and well grassed, and the elevation above the sea level was well adapted for drainage. To meet the objections of those who urged that Adelaide was too far from the sea to be a commercial centre, Colonel Light surveyed a secondary town called Port Adelaide, and the wisdom of this arrangement is now fully justified.

A great cause of complaint was found in the slowness with which the surveys were made, months elapsing before any selection of land could be completed. There was, in fact, no adequate means of transport to carry the surveyors and their camps from place to place, while, all the time, of course, nothing in the way of production could be carried on, and the arrivals from England had no homes to go to, but were obliged to camp wherever they could. The condition of the colony at this period is described as that of a continuous "picnic." In the meantime, Mr. G. S. Kingston, then second in command of the surveying staff, sailed to England to lay certain views before the English Commissioners for the purpose of expediting the surveys. His suggestions were adopted, and Colonel Light immediately resigned. This official reprimand, however, so preyed upon his spirits, that he sickened and died in the following year. His remains were accorded a public funeral, and were buried in the public square that bears his name, and a monument was placed over his grave.

Captain Hindmarsh was continually embroiled with his subordinates throughout his term of office. He was a distinguished naval officer of

the old school, habituated to the employment of a most autocr command, and as such was not well suited for a position of mer nominal superiority. Complaints were forwarded to the Secretary State for the Colonies, Lord Glenelg, who wrote sharply to the ef that, upon his own showing, Captain Hindmarsh appeared "to incapable of carrying on the government; with the exception of Judge and the Harbour-master, he was, more or less, at variance w all the official functionaries of the colony." He was recalled in 18 and Mr. George Milner Stephen was sworn in as Acting Governor.

During Hindmarsh's term of office, a Supreme Court was establish On April 3rd, 1838, Mr. Joseph Hawdon arrived overland from Syd with a mixed herd of 335 head of cattle. Soon after, Mr. E. J. E arrived with another herd of 300 head, and Captain Charles St (afterwards Colonial Secretary) with one of 400 head. At this po in the colony's progress the habitations erected were of the flimsi materials. Government House was merely a reed hut, and most of other dwellings were structures of a similar description. In Janua 1839, the old Government House was burnt down, and nearly whole of the executive and legislative records up to that date w destroyed. Cultivation continued to languish, and food was d growing dearer Flour was worth £30 per ton, beef 1s. a lb., 4s. a lb., and other things in proportion: and these prices sometimes exceeded. The only watchmaker received 17s. for clean a watch. The Australian Company tried to carry on the whale-fishi and for some years the only exports were whalebone and oil, but th was no external trade in either mineral, pastoral, or agricult products.

Governor Hindmarsh's successor was Colonel Gawler, K.H., arrived in the colony on the 12th October, 1838. When Gover Hindmarsh arrived in the colony the population was 546 souls, when left it had increased to 2,377. When Colonel Gawler arrived there w population of 3,680. The new Governor found the affairs of the col in a deplorable condition, and he made strenuous efforts to evolve show of order, but his headstrong actions only served to involve settlement in still deeper confusion. The finances were in suc perilous state that in 1838, when the expenditure totalled £16,580, revenue amounted to only £1,448. The people, too, instead of open up the country, remained in the city; while of the rural holdings, wh were in the hands of the proprietors, only about 200 acres had b devoted to the plough The Governor did his best to get the people proceed with the cultivation of the soil, and with some success. projected extensive public works to provide employment for the unemp and had, of course, to incur a heavy expenditure. He drew upon Home Government to meet current liabilities, and his bills returned dishonored

The revenue for 1839-40-41 amounted to £75,773: the expendi during the same period was £357,615, thus leaving a deficit in

public accounts of £281,842. In consequence of this, Colonel Gawler was recalled, and he was superseded by Captain George Grey, to whom Governor Gawler had extended the utmost consideration on his arrival at Adelaide some time previously, ill, and suffering from spear-wounds inflicted by the blacks.

There is little doubt, at this distance of time, that Colonel Gawler was treated by the Commissioners somewhat unfairly. They sent out [illegible] after shipload of emigrants, for whom their representative had to provide in some manner; but they did not furnish him with the means essential to do this. He believed in the province, and drew on its [illegible]. When he left, after three years of office, the population had more than doubled; the land under cultivation had increased from [illegible],003 acres, the sheep depastured from 28,000 to more than [illegible], and the export trade from next to nothing to over £100,000 annual value. With Gawler's dismissal came a period of acute crisis. Confidence in the colony was not only severely shaken, it was well nigh destroyed, and adverse criticism from without attacked its fundamental principles. For a time economists unhesitatingly pronounced the Wakefield scheme of colonisation to be a failure. The colonists, however, stood loyally by their departing Governor, and showed their appreciation of his integrity and ability by farewell addresses and a gift of plate, while the Duke of Wellington is reported to have said of him, on one occasion, "Gawler could not act otherwise than wisely, for he never did a foolish thing in his life."

Colonel Gawler personally took part in the exploration of the colony, and during his administration sent out various parties to discover land suitable for settlement. One of the most sensational efforts to penetrate the mystery of the interior was undertaken at this period. This was the great journey made by Mr. Edward John Eyre, in 1840, to reach Perth overland from Adelaide. After untold sufferings, the murder of his white companion by treacherous aboriginal servants, theft of provisions, and desertion, he accomplished 1,000 miles of travel along the coast line, breaking at one point his monotonous journey when he fell in with, and was succoured by, a French whaling ship in command of Captain Rossiter. Refreshed by a long rest and abundant food, he finally reached Albany, after an absence of nearly thirteen months from Adelaide, where he had long been given up for dead.

The departure of Governor Gawler marked the conclusion of the experimental stage of colonisation. The office of the Commissioners in London had been abolished, and the Government of South Australia was entrusted to the Secretary of State for the Colonies. Captain Grey, the new Governor, was instructed to inaugurate the most drastic retrenchment, the sudden collapse of the financial credit of the province having with peculiar insistence on the attention of the British Government. A Select Committee was appointed to investigate the affairs of the struggling settlement, and an outcome of its report was a

rapidly, but the prices of all staple commodities were low in the extreme. But at a time when sheep were being boiled down for their tallow, and wheat was worth but half-a-crown a bushel, the splendid copper-mines of Kapunda and Burra Burra were successively discovered, and proved the salvation of the province. The only capital invested in Burra-Burra was £12,320; while the return in copper, before the workings were stopped in 1877, amounted in value to close upon five millions sterling. These valuable finds occurred very opportunely. The Home authorities had so little faith in South Australia's future, that Governor Grey was instructed to send to Sydney all the immigrant labourers then employed on Government works. The Governor took the responsibility of ignoring his instructions. He was aware that numbers of persons had already left for New Zealand and other settlements. He was aware also that the expense of deportation would be much greater than that which would be incurred by keeping the labourers employed at the cost of about £4,000 per quarter, and he advised the Imperial authorities to the effect that, had he at once sent all the immigrants away, the colony would have been irretrievably ruined, and the whole expenditure spent upon it utterly lost. He writes: "I should, in the first instance, have had to send away 2,427 souls—that is, one sixth part of the whole population; the fact of having done so would have made paupers of a great many more, who must have been removed in the same manner, and there would have been no labourers remaining in the colony to procure food for those who were left." When Captain Grey assumed office the population was 14,562; when he retired on the 15th October, 1845, it had increased to 21,759. The steady increase in the number of the people was one of the constant embarrassments of his position. Throughout his term of office the ordinary revenue was never equal to the expenditure, and recourse had constantly to be had to land sales, the proceeds of which were levied upon to meet current liabilities.

In 1840, in the time of Governor Gawler, there had been some trouble with the aboriginals, who had murdered the seventeen white survivors of a wrecked brig named the *Maria*; and two of the natives were court martialled and summarily hanged. About nine months afterwards, in 1841, Mr. Inman, while overlanding sheep, was, with two others, severely wounded, while all the sheep, numbering some 7,000, were carried off by the aborigines who had attacked the party. Major O'Halloran was sent out with an expeditionary force to trace and punish the offenders, but was recalled in consequence of the censures passed on Colonel Gawler for his execution of the two murderers concerned in the *Maria* outrage. Thereupon some volunteers under Lieutenant Field, R.N., took up the enterprise. This second party of whites was surrounded by a body of natives, some 200 or 300 strong, and, after shooting some of their assailants, its members barely escaped with their lives. Another expedition was then organised in Adelaide, but Governor Grey intervened, and refused to allow it "to levy war or to exercise

[illegible] against the offending blacks. A police [illegible] inspector and twenty nine men, sent to the protec[illegible] [illegible] of the disturbed districts, next encountered [illegible] aborigines. A conflict between the two parties took [illegible] were killed and about ten wounded. Althoug[illegible] [illegible] in certain quarters [illegible] the police, an [illegible] in their [illegible] but, to obv[illegible] [illegible] the future, M[illegible] [illegible] Protector of Aborigines, and stationed at Mo[illegible] [illegible] His charges, an[illegible] [illegible] travellers entirely [illegible] [illegible] Captain Frome, [illegible] the country [illegible] beyond Mount Serl[illegible] [illegible] was forced to beat a re[illegible] [illegible] made to reach the cen[illegible] [illegible] failures, Captain Stur[illegible] [illegible] Government, on a [illegible] [illegible] 1844, and returned in [illegible] [illegible] months. This expe[illegible] [illegible] country now occupie[illegible] [illegible] made tragic, also, by the ho[illegible] [illegible] The terrible privations of Captain [illegible] [illegible] he gradually became totally [illegible] [illegible] per annum by the South Austr[illegible] [illegible] his death, in 1869.

[illegible] in connection with the Maori War [illegible] employ the proved ability of Cap[illegible] [illegible] and provided what was practica[illegible] [illegible] Frederick Holt Robe, who [illegible] Mauritius, and assumed control of [illegible] The administration of this officer, [illegible] Lieutenant-Governor only, was particul[illegible] [illegible] confined to following in the foots[illegible] [illegible] instances in which Governor Robe [illegible] [illegible] made mistakes; what he did [illegible] [illegible] what he refused to do was afterwards car[illegible] [illegible] an impolitic royalty on minerals, which [illegible] In the face of strong opposition he devoted pu[illegible] [illegible] religion, and thereby stirred up a great [illegible] [illegible] Bishop Short, as the site for an Angli[illegible] [illegible] Victoria square, in the very heart of [illegible] [illegible] Post Office now stands, but [illegible] [illegible] successfully contested by the City Council [illegible] [illegible] the Supreme Court deciding that [illegible] [illegible] any part of the public esta[illegible] [illegible] refused his consent to a proposal [illegible]

establish the City Corporation. Still, notwithstanding the weakness of the administration, the Colony, during his term of office, continued to prosper, and to recover the prestige it had lost with the collapse of the Gawler regime. Agriculture in particular had made important strides, its development being greatly assisted by the invention of improved wheat-harvesting machinery. Governor Robe held office until August, 1848, by which time the population had increased to 38,666, as against with 21,759 in 1845. The ordinary revenue had grown from £[illegible]3 to £82,411 during the same period. The proceeds of the land sales from the foundation of the Colony to the date of Colonel Robe's departure, amounted to £530,877.

Two years before Governor Robe's departure, Mr. J. Ainsworth Horrocks organised an expedition to solve the problem of the interior. Mr. Horrocks had been in the Colony since 1839, and had gained some experience in the work of exploration. He now, in 1846, proposed to start from the head of Spencer's Gulf, and travel north west from the further shores of Lake Torrens. The expedition, which had suffered greatly through want of water and the hostility of the natives, was, however, brought to a tragic close within a month from the date of its inception, by the accidental death of its leader.

Upon Major Robe's recall, Sir Henry Young was transferred from the Western Province of the Cape of Good Hope, of which he was Lieutenant Governor, to take similar rank in South Australia. He had previously been Governor of Prince Edward's Island. Though not a strong administrator of remarkable ability, he fulfilled the functions of his office with considerable success, and the province, generally, prospered under his rule. The Colony is indebted to him, amongst other things, for the introduction of an extensive main road system, and the institution of valuable local government organisations in the form of District Councils. In 1851, South Australia experienced a severe, albeit temporary, check in the exodus of population that followed the discovery of gold in Victoria. The attractions of the gold fields almost denuded the province of its labouring population. Merchants, bankers, and all classes of property were reduced to the severest straits for lack of labour. Mines stopped working, business enterprise was arrested, and branches of industry came to a standstill. At this crisis, Attorney-General (afterwards Sir) Richard D. Hanson, at the suggestion of Mr. Samuel Walters, of the English and South Australian Copper Company, proposed a measure to make gold by weight a legal tender at a fixed standard value. The principle was incorporated in the Bullion Act, the Royal escort was organised, and a portion of the wealth won from the Victorian fields by the South Australian diggers was diverted into their own country, thus exercising a beneficial effect in the restoration of confidence in the resources and credit of the province.

Another event of great historical importance was the opening up of the Murray River to steam navigation. Captain Cadell had descended the river from Victoria in a canvas boat, and this exploit had drawn

great attention to the value of the stream as a means of intercolonial communication, and a source of prospective profitable traffic along its banks. Governor Young took a keen interest in the matter. Many accidents had happened at the mouth of the river, but the Governor believed that a good harbour might be constructed at Port Elliott, and a short tramway made thence to the Murray at Goolwa, distant 7 miles. He therefore, procured the offer of a bonus to the man who should take the first steamer up the stream as far as the Darling junction, and he himself accompanied Captain Cadell to Echuca, 1,300 miles up the "Lady Augusta."

Prior to Captain Cadell's voyage up the Murray in the "Lady Augusta," Mr William Randell had built a small steamer at Mannum, on the Murray, about 80 miles above Goolwa, and had steamed up the Murray, and for some distance along the Darling, but his craft did not possess the conditions which would entitle him to the reward.

In his Murray River projects, the Governor was undoubtedly too sanguine, not sufficiently taking into account the circumstance that the water supply of the Murray was variable, and that the eastern colonies also might have views with regard to the exploitation of any possible traffic. The tramway proposed by him was, however, constructed, and a sum of £30,000 was spent in constructing a breakwater at Port Elliott. "He planned and wrote," says one of his critics, "that it would become the New Orleans of the Australian Mississippi but the money was literally thrown into the sea." The water borne traffic of the Murray never greatly benefited South Australia, for when it began to grow to any considerable volume it was promptly tapped by the Victorian railway system. Nevertheless, in the broad Australian sense, the passage of the first steamer up the river was a highly important historical event. Railways to the Port and northward were also initiated, but in consequence of the lack of experience in contruction, these cost the Colony enormous sums, in one instance 8 miles of line over level ground, with no engineering difficulties to surmount, and only one bridge to cross, involving an expenditure of nearly a quarter of a million sterling. It would appear, however, that a large proportion of the money spent was absorbed in providing work for the unemployed in order to relieve the labour market; the number of workmen employed on certain contracts in some cases being far in excess of actual requirements.

The Corporation of the City of Adelaide, whose powers had lain in abeyance for nine years, was revived by the Governor in 1851. But even before its revival a great alteration had been made in the political constitution of the colony. In 1851, the old system of Government by an Administrator and a Nominee Council was abolished, and a legislature of one Chamber created in its place. This Chamber was composed of sixteen elected, and eight nominee members, four of the latter being Members of the Executive Council, and filling the chief official posts in the province. The other four were appointed by the Governor himself, subject to the approval of the Crown—though this was merely

tter of form. The new Chamber was designated the Legislative ncil, and exercised control over the expenditure chargeable to the ral revenue of the colony; whilst the Governor, as representative he Crown, possessed the disposal of all the income derived from the or leasing of public lands. Earl Grey, the then Secretary of State the Colonies, was the inventor of this form of Colonial Government. 1853, the population of the colony numbered 79,000. In the erial Act, under which South Australia was founded, it was pro- d that the inhabitants might frame a Constitution for themselves soon as they numbered 50,000 souls. In accordance with this sion, and about two years after the inauguration of Earl Grey's me of government, the Legislative Council passed a Constitution under which was to be called into existence, a Parliament, to ist of two Chambers—one elected by the people, and one to be inated by the Governor as representative of the Crown, the bers of the latter being appointed for life. The measure was sent to land for the Royal Assent, but the proposed new Constitution did satisfy the colonists, and being strongly petitioned against, the was referred back to the province.

r Henry Edward Fox Young was promoted to the Governorship of mania, and left the colony to take up the duties of his new office December 20th, 1854. Under his administration the land revenue eased from £32,935, in 1848, to £383,470, at the conclusion of his d of office. The general revenue increased for the same period from 911 to £595,356. The population, in 1848, was 38,666 persons; e that date immigration had added to the muster roll of the colony ower than 93,149, while the increase of births over deaths for the e period was 7,897; yet, so great had been the exodus during the ewer years, that the total population at the time of Governor ng's departure was only 92,545, many people, in fact, simply South Australia as a free-passage stepping-stone to the Victorian lds.

r Henry's successor did not arrive in the colony for six months, Government being administered in the interim by the Hon. B. T. ss, who had, up to that time, been Colonial Secretary.

r Richard Graves MacDonnell assumed the reins of Government he 8th June, 1855, and surrendered them on the 4th March, 1862; thus ing the longest term of all South Australia's Governors, administer- the affairs of the province for a period only three months short of n years. On his arrival the Governor found the province in the s of military enthusiasm. The outbreak of the Crimean War, in 4, had aroused fears of a Russian descent on Australia, and, in n with some of the sister colonies, South Australia made hurried parations for such a contingency. A strong regiment of foot was ed, with a small force of cavalry, and three batteries of artillery, the arms and equipment were extremely inadequate, while the es of the port and shipping were almost entirely neglected.

With the conclusion of peace, however, between Russia and the belligerent powers, this sudden accession of military ardour rapidly evaporated.

The colony's affairs were now in a flourishing condition. It had a satisfactory revenue, and politically the only problem before it was the framing of a popular Constitution. After the general election, to ascertain the wishes of the colonists on this important subject, the estimates framed by the Governor were forwarded to the Legislative Council: but instead of being discussed in the ordinary manner, they were referred to a Select Committee composed of six elected members and one nominee. The Committee protracted its sittings for several months while it criticised the Governor's policy, the public service being carried on in the meantime by credit votes. When the Committee dispatched an address to the Governor requesting him to send revised Estimates to the Legislative Council, he replied in a trenchant and masterly manner, and thereby won over to his views the great bulk of the colonists.

The Constitution Act was introduced into the Legislative Council, where it was discussed and finally adopted, whilst the dispute was still proceeding between the Select Committee and the Governor over the Estimates. The Bill was passed in the last session of the old Legislative Council of 1855–6, and, receiving the Royal Assent, was in due course returned unaltered to the colony and proclaimed on the 24th October, 1856. The Constitution was modelled somewhat on English lines, the Parliament consisting of two Chambers, a Legislative Council and a House of Assembly, both of them established on the elective principle. The Upper House was chosen on the basis of a property qualification of electors, the House of Assembly was chosen on the basis of manhood suffrage. The qualifications of an elector for the Legislative Council were a £50 freehold, a lease, registered, having three years to run, or a right of purchase of the annual value of £20, or the tenancy of a house of the clear annual value of £25. Any natural born or naturalised British subject, who had attained the age of 30, and had resided in the Colony for three years, was eligible as a member of the Upper House, which consisted of eighteen members, elected for twelve years. The Council was not subject to dissolution, but one-third of the members were to retire at the end of every third year, the order of retirement being decided by ballot after the first elections had taken place. The members of the Upper Chamber were elected by the whole province voting as one constituency. The House of Assembly consisted of thirty-six members, elected on a basis of manhood suffrage under a registration of six months duration. The Lower Chamber was liable to dissolution by the Governor, failing which event its life was triennial. Members of the Assembly were elected for specified districts into which the colony was divided, and the mode of election for both Houses was by ballot, the principle of which was adopted at the instance of "the father of the ballot" in Australia, the late F. S. Dutton.

Sir Richard McDonnell had never been Governor of a colony with an independent Constitution, yet it was under his auspices that the work of constitutional reform was completed. The Act materially altered his position, and he was not easily reconciled to the changed status in which he found himself. Under the new Constitution he was no longer able to act on his own initiative, but was under obligation to act on the advice of his responsible Ministers. For a while the Governor considered it to be his business to give advice to his Ministers, and to prescribe the policy of the Government, but he soon accepted a more correct view of the situation, and contented himself with the mere formal concurrence in the drafted policy of his responsible advisers.

The first Ministry, which was a makeshift one, lasted for less than four months; the second, nine days; the third, twenty nine days; and the fourth, two years and nine months. During the term of office of the last mentioned responsible Ministry, that admirable measure known as the Torrens Act, for simplifying the transfer of land, and for securing titles to it, was passed into law. It originated with Mr. (afterwards Sir) R. R. Torrens, whose experience, as Collector of Customs, in the transfer of shipping property, supplemented by the legal knowledge of European land legislation possessed by Dr. Hubbe, enabled him to frame a Bill so well suited to colonial conditions that the transfer of real property could be effected under its provisions with almost as much ease as the transfer of ordinary goods.

The railway connecting Adelaide with its port was completed and opened to traffic during the McDonnell regime, as well as the line from the capital to Gawler, and thence to Kapunda; and a beginning was made in constructing lines for telegraphic communication. Mr. Charles Todd constructed his first telegraph line from Adelaide to the Port, but the immediate revenue therefrom was infinitesimal, a rival line opened by Mr. McGeorge a few weeks previously having captured most of the business. The Government, however, intervened, and bought out Mr. McGeorge's rights for a sum of £80, and caused the line to be removed. The next extension of communication was to Gawler. In less than three years the system had extended as far as Melbourne. To Sir Richard McDonnell the establishment of the works that furnish an excellent supply of water to Adelaide and the suburbs is also attributable, and during his rule in 1861 the province gained an extension of territory which has, however, never been of much real advantage) by the acquisition of a strip of country known as "No Man's Land," containing 50,000 square miles, and lying between the former boundary of the Colony and that of Western Australia, and carrying the western boundary of the province west as far as the 129th meridian of east longitude. The mining industry received a great impetus by the discovery of rich deposits of copper in Yorke's Peninsula, and many mines were opened, of which the most famous were at Wallaroo and Moonta.

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to the beach and gratify themselves with a sight of the sea, whilst the [illegible] remained to watch the horses until their return. I dipped [illegible] and washed my face and hands in the sea, as I promised the [illegible] Sir Richard McDonnell. I would do if I reached it. [illegible] party had spent some time on the beach, at which they [illegible] and gratified, they collected a few shells. I returned [illegible] where I had my initials cut on a large tree (J. M. D.S.), as [illegible] putting my flag up at the mouth of the Adelaide. The [illegible] were royally received on their return to Adelaide. Stuart [illegible] a grant of [illegible] square miles of grazing country and in all [illegible] But he died in less than [illegible] years. Crippled, [illegible] and utterly broken down, he could [illegible] struggle forward while [illegible] to be done, but the numberless [illegible] privations he had suffered [illegible] a fatal drain on his energy, and [illegible] he rapidly sank when the [illegible]

[illegible] Governor McDonnell left [illegible] province, the population had [illegible] 1854. The revenue had expanded [illegible] the area of land under cultiva[illegible] 1862 it had grown to 320,160 acres, [illegible] in the two years named were respect[illegible] In 1854 the imports were valued at [illegible] had decreased to £1,820,656, whilst in [illegible] had grown from £1,322,822 to £2,145,796. [illegible] was succeeded in the Government by Sir [illegible] any interregnum of administration, the change [illegible] March, 1862. Prior to his arrival in South [illegible] Governor had filled a similar position at Prince [illegible]

[illegible] Sir Dominick's administration were troubled by the [illegible] brought about by the persistence of Mr. Justice [illegible] himself as the only lawfully appointed judge of [illegible] of South Australia. His appointment had been [illegible] under the great seal of the province by Sir H. [illegible] the exceptional character of the method in which he [illegible] office caused the judge to scout the claims of his col[illegible] the legality of their acts. Voluminous correspond[illegible] between the Governor, the Secretary of State for the [illegible] Justice Boothby himself, and the quarrel seemed to [illegible] The whole question was so intermixed with con[illegible] that no finality could be arrived at. Vain efforts [illegible] Judge Boothby's retirement, and he was ultimately [illegible] under an Act of George III, which, it was considered, [illegible] peculiar case. However, his death which took place a [illegible] proceedings were initiated against him, brought this [illegible] to a close.

[illegible] 1863, the Northern Territory, or Alexandra Land [illegible] until that time a part of the colony of New South

which Mr. Boucaut proposed to raise as a loan, the interest being provided for by the imposition of increased taxation in the form of stamp taxes and probate and succession duties. Twice the taxation proposals passed the Assembly, and twice were they rejected by the Council, and Mr. Boucaut refused to go on with his public works. His Ministry was removed by a non-confidence vote, and the Hon. John Colton was sent for. This gentleman formed a new Cabinet, and adopted the whole of the Boucaut policy except its proposed taxation. The sum of £3,000,000 was raised on loan, and various new railways were projected, all of which have since been constructed, the Probate and Succession Duties were adopted and became law, but the Stamp Act which had been contemplated was not proceeded with. The Boucaut policy of internal expansion and public works construction was for a series of years the chief political subject, and, indeed, long after Mr. Boucaut, through his having accepted a seat on the judicial bench, had ceased to have any direct connection with it.

Pending the arrival of Sir Anthony Musgrave's successor, Sir William Wellington Cairns, K.C.M.G., the Government was administered by Chief Justice Samuel James Way, who has often filled the same office. Sir W. W. Cairns, who was transferred from Queensland, remained in the colony less than eight weeks, and left behind him hardly a trace of his visit. The only public functions he performed during his stay in the province were the opening of the Victoria Bridge on 24th April 1877, and his attendance at the inauguration of the Senate of the Adelaide University and the enrolment of its members. He resigned his office on the 17th May following, and the Chief Justice again became Administrator, and remained so for nearly five months. During the administration of the Hon. S. J. Way (July, 1877) the overland telegraph line to Western Australia was completed as far as Eucla, a small port about 180 miles west of the head of the Great Australian Bight.

Sir William Francis Drummond Jervois, C.B., C.M.G., R.E., arrived in Adelaide on the 2nd October, 1877, and remained in office till the 27th November, 1882. Sir William Jervois held the rank of Colonel in the Royal Engineers, and was Governor of the Straits Settlements when he was appointed to South Australia. He subsequently attained the rank of Lieutenant General. Besides having distinguished himself as a soldier, he was esteemed one of the greatest authorities on fortification among European experts. He had had many and varied experiences in England, at the Cape, and in India, and afterwards filled the position of Governor of New Zealand.

Almost immediately after the new Governor's arrival, the overland telegraph line from Adelaide to Perth, connecting West Australia with the telegraphic systems of the other colonies and of the world, was completed. It follows the coastline for the most part along Eyre's track over 373 miles of that difficult country first traversed by the foot of white men hardly forty years before, and it joins the South Australian

system at Port Augusta. The next year the first sod of the transcontinental railway from Port Augusta to Port Denison was turned by the Governor, who opened 200 miles of it four years afterwards. At present the works on this line reach a point (Oodnadatta) 737 miles north of Adelaide. On 30th July, 1878, Sir William Jervois laid the foundation stone of the Adelaide University; and on 12th June, 1881, the two young princes, Albert Victor and George of Wales, paid an unofficial visit to the colony, where they were well received.

Sir William Cleaver Francis Robinson, K.C.M.G., succeeded Lieutenant-General Sir W. F. D. Jervois on 16th February, 1883, and he remained in office a little over six years. The Governor was absent from the colony for short periods on seven separate occasions, and was represented sometimes by the Chief Justice and sometimes by His Honor J. P. Boucaut. Upon the departure of Sir William Robinson for Victoria on 6th March, 1889, the Chief Justice again administered the Government pending the arrival of the Earl of Kintore on 11th April of the same year.

The most noteworthy incident of the Robinson regime was the celebration of Her Majesty's and the colony's dual jubilees, fittingly commemorated by the opening of the South Australian Exhibition on the 21st June, 1887. The exhibition was a great success. It was kept open for six months, and was visited by 789,672 persons. The expense of erecting a permanent building which reverted to the Government, and a portion of which is now used as an Art Gallery, was £33,898, while the total cost of the exhibition was £68,702.

The exhibition was held at the conclusion of a time of severe financial crisis. The market values of all staple commodities had fallen ruinously; mines had become unprofitable and had been closed up, harvests had failed for want of rain; and the continued drought had involved stock-owners in heavy losses. A feverish period of land speculation had been followed by disastrous reaction, and hundreds of investors had been rendered penniless by the failure of the Commercial Bank, and the collapse of other joint stock associations. Just, however, when they were most required, large metalliferous discoveries were made, the Teetulpa gold diggings giving employment to thousands, and above all, rich deposits of silver and tin were opened up in the Barrier Ranges in New South Wales, adjoining the South Australian border. Pastoral products, long depressed in value, began to rise, and the season of 1887 opened with an early and copious rainfall extending throughout the settled districts, and bringing with it an assurance of renewed agricultural prosperity.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Kintore, K.C.M.G., arrived in South Australia on the 11th April, 1889, and left his charge on the 16th January, 1895. Several South Australian Governors have taken a keen interest in the exploration of the interior. Notably among Vice-regal enthusiasts of inland discovery were Governors Gawler, Young, and MacDonnell, the last mentioned being particularly anxious to cross

the Continent. The realisation of this ambitious project was reserved for the Earl of Kintore who, in 1891, made the voyage to Port Darwin in the Northern Territory, and returned to Adelaide *via* the telegraph line route He is the only Governor who has crossed the Continent from sea to sea.

Lord Kintore's successor, Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, K.C.M.G., arrived in the colony on 29th October, 1895. From the date of Lord Kintore's departure until the arrival of Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton in October, the Government was administered by the Chief Justice, who had at the beginning of the year 1891, received a commission as Lieutenant-Governor of the Colony from Her Majesty Two months after the new Governor's arrival the Federal Enabling Bill passed both Houses of Parliament. A novel experiment in Legislation, the State Advances Bill, was also passed into law, and a State Bank under the Act was established under it on 1st February, 1896. In July following tenders for mortgage bonds for the banks were opened : the amount required being £30,000 at 3½ per cent., while the total applied for was £59,600. The first four months of the year 1896 were marked by terrific gales, which wrought great damage to the shipping and other property ; the 22nd February and 10th of April being two days of especial rigour and disaster. On the 25th April, the general elections throughout the province were held, and are noteworthy in marking the first occasion in the history of the colony on which women exercised their newly won right to the franchise. No less than 66 per cent. of the women enrolled voted. The Adult Suffrage Bill had passed through all its stages in committee on the 13th December, 1894 ; on the 9th of February following, a cablegram had been received from England announcing the Royal Assent ; and on the 19th March of the same year, the assent itself had been received. The result of the elections showed that all the fears expressed by the opponents of the measure were wholly without foundation.

The Calvert expedition, rendered tragic by the death from thirst of two of its members, started out from Adelaide on the 23rd May, 1896. A more extended reference to this expedition will be found in the chapter dealing with Western Australia. On the 7th August, 1896, the Governor opened the Happy Valley Waterworks at Clarendon. The installation of this magnificent system involved an expenditure of £500,000.

The year 1897 opened dismally in the Northern Territory. On the 7th January a terrible hurricane, accompanied by two shocks of earthquake, and a storm that raged with unabated fury for several hours, practically destroyed the town of Palmerston, and inflicted damage and loss that would be underestimated at £150,000 During the following month the city of Adelaide also suffered severely from the effects of a storm, the suburbs being flooded and the intercolonial railway greatly injured.

The Imperial authorities had decided to appoint a Supreme Court Judge to the Judicial Committee of the Imperial Privy Council, and the selection fell on the Hon S. J. Way, the Chief Justice and Lieutenant Governor of South Australia, who received his appointment to the newly created post on the 22nd January, 1897. On 17th March following he left for England to fulfil the duties of his position, and on 19th June, in connection with the celebration of the Record Reign Jubilee, he received the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from the University of Cambridge, and was subsequently, to the great pleasure of his fellow-citizens, created a baronet.

Pursuant to an arrangement arrived at with the other colonies steps were taken to appoint delegates to an Australasian Federal Convention. The election of members of the Convention took place in South Australia on the 14th March, 1897, the whole province voting as one constituency. The Convention opened at Adelaide on the 22nd of the month, the Premier the Hon. C. C. Kingston, being appointed President, and the Hon. Sir R. C. Baker, Chairman of Committees. The proceedings of the Convention are elsewhere described.

In 1897 several important names disappeared from the history of South Australia. On the 6th March one of South Australia's noblest-hearted benefactors passed away. This was Sir Thomas Elder, G.C.M.G., M.L.C. He it was who introduced a breeding herd of camels into the colony, and made the exploration of the interior practicable and possible. At his own cost he had fitted out several expeditions to open up the country. He established a Conservatorium of music in Adelaide, and, besides benefiting the province in a thousand ways during his lifetime, left to be divided among the various public institutions of South Australia the noble bequest of £155,000. Another death was that of Sir Henry Ayers, G.C.M.G., a South Australian politician of many years standing, and a man closely identified with public affairs and the progress of the province. He died on the 11th June. On the 18th July the bodies of Charles Wells and George Jones, the ill-fated members of the Calvert exploring expedition, who had perished of thirst near Johanna Springs, Western Australia, were accorded a public funeral at Adelaide.

Little remains to be said in order to bring this brief historical survey to a conclusion. Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton left for England on the 29th September for a six months' holiday. On the 20th December he despatched a cablegram to Adelaide announcing his resignation, for family reasons. The Lieutenant-Governor again discharged the duties of administration until the arrival of Sir T. F. Buxton's successor, the Right Hon. Hallam Baron Tennyson who arrived in Adelaide on 10th of April, 1899.

In the following table will be found a list of the different ministries in South Australia from the establishment of Responsible Government

[illegible] also the date of appoint-
[illegible]

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]					Duration.	
		[illegible]			[illegible]		Months.	Days.
	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	23	Aug., 1857	21	28
	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible], 1857	..	11
	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Sept., 1857		29
	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	9	Mar., 1860	31	9
	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Mar., 1861	12	11
	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible], 1861	4	18
	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible], 1861		9
	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible], 1863	20	18
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible], 1863	0	11
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible], 1864	12	7
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible], 1864		13
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Mar., 1865	7	18
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Sept., 1865	5	29
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible], 1866	1	3
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Mar., 1866	5	5
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Mar., 1867	13	5
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Sept., 1868	16	21
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible], 1868		19
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Nov., 1868		21
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Mar., 1870	18	9
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Mar., 1870	...	18
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Nov., 1871	17	11
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Jan., 1872	2	12
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	4	Mar., 1872	1	10
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	July, 1873	16	18
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	June, 1875	22	12
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	25	Mar., 1876	9	22
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	June, 1876	2	12
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible], 1877	16	20
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Sept., 1878	11	1
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	June, 1881	29	27
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	June, 1884	35	23
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	June, 1885	12	.
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	June, 1887	23	20
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	June, 1889	24	16
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Aug., 1890	13	23
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	June, 1892	21	16
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible], 1892	3	24
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	16	June, 1893	8	1
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1	Dec., 1899	77	15
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	8	Dec., 1899	.	7
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]			.	

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

STERN AUSTRALIA is the youngest of the seven sister colonies of Australasia; but, curiously, it shares with Queensland Northern Territory of South Australia the privilege of being first to Europeans. As early as 1503 it is claimed that a French or, Binot Paulmyer, Sieur de Gonneville, was blown out of his and touched at some portion of the coast, but the evidence in of the assertion is anything but conclusive. The Portuguese y claim to the discovery of the western coast at a later date. is to Dutch navigators in the early portion of the seventeenth that we owe the first really authentic accounts of the western nd adjacent islands, and in many instances the names given by mariners to prominent physical features are still retained. By he Dutch possessed rough charts of almost the whole of the littoral, while to the mainland itself they had given the name Holland. Of the Dutch discoverers, Pelsart was the only one ade any detailed observations of the character of the country

as reserved, however, for an Englishman, William Dampier, to a more thorough examination of the country adjacent to the coast, and he visited it on two occasions—once in 1688, when he member of a company of buccaneers who landed to repair their and later, in 1699, as an accredited explorer in charge of the ck." The history of his voyage, published by Dampier shortly is return to England, represented the country as so barren and table that no idea was then entertained of utilising it for ent.

ng the interval elapsing between Dampier's two voyages, an t led to the closer examination of the coasts of Western Aus- by the Dutch. In 1684 a vessel had sailed from Holland for the possessions in the East Indies, and after rounding the Cape of Hope, she was never again heard of. Some twelve years afterwards st India Company fitted out an expedition under the leadership mander William de Vlaming, with the object of searching for ces of the lost vessel on the western shores of New Holland. ds the close of the year 1696 this expedition reached the island of t which was thoroughly explored, and early the following year a g party discovered and named the Swan River. The vessels then ded northward without finding any traces of the object of their but, at the same time, making fairly accurate charts of the coast

From this time onward the country was visited by various explorers; but the expeditions of Lieutenant King (1818-22) are the most noteworthy, inasmuch as this officer made very careful surveys of the whole of the western coast from King George's Sound to Cambridge Gulf, and continued his observations from this point along the northern shores of the Continent. King's work was so thoroughly and accurately done that his charts and sailing directions still form the basis of those in use at the present day.

Expeditions fitted out by the French Government had at various periods touched at the shores of Western Australia; and, in 1825, the presence of two French vessels, the "Thetis" and "L'Esperance," off the coast, roused the suspicion that France had designs on some portion of the Continent—a suspicion never altogether absent from the minds of the Colonial authorities. At this juncture, therefore, Lieutenant-General Sir Ralph Darling (Governor-General of New South Wales) sent Major Lockyer with a detachment of the 39th Regiment, and a small party of convicts, numbering in all some seventy-five or eighty souls, to found a settlement at King George's Sound. The harbour was selected in preference to a port on the west coast on account of its unique advantages as a naval base. Lockyer's expedition landed at the Sound on the 25th December, 1826.

Twelve months later (17th January, 1827), Captain Gilbert, in H.M.S. "Success," was despatched from Sydney to re-victual the infant settlement, and also to examine the Swan River, with a view to its occupation, the Imperial authorities fearing that they might be forestalled by the French. The "Success" had on board as a passenger Mr. Charles Fraser, the Colonial Botanist of New South Wales. On the 5th March, the expedition reached Rottnest Island, which was explored. On the following day the vessel anchored off the mouth of the Swan River. On the 7th March the "Success" was moored at Berthollet Island (now known as Carnac), and, on the following day, the first gig and the cutter, victualled for fourteen days, and well armed, proceeded up the Swan River, which was explored to its supposed source; the boats experiencing, however, some difficulty in crossing the shallows near the islands which now form part of the causeway. About 10 miles up the stream two gardens were planted, and friendly relations were established with a party of natives by means of presents. The cutter returned to the "Success," and left the gig to make a hasty exploration of another river, to which the French had given the name of the Moreau (now called the Canning), which survey was successfully carried out. The crew of the vessel was subsequently employed in surveying the islands of Rottnest, Berthollet, and Buache, and the neighbouring reefs. On the island of Buache itself was planted a garden, from which circumstance it probably derives its present name of Garden Island, and a cow, three sheep, and three goats were placed thereon. On the 21st March, 1827, the "Success" sailed for Geographe Bay, where she arrived three days afterwards. On the 2nd April King George's Sound was

made, and the settlement planted there was found to be in anything but a satisfactory condition. Leaving the Sound on the 4th April the vessel dropped anchor in Port Jackson on the morning of the 15th. Captain Gilbert and Mr. Fraser both seem to have been highly impressed with the capabilities of the country around Swan River. Indeed, so encouraging were the reports made by the members of the expedition, that a settlement at the Swan River was finally resolved upon by the Imperial authorities on the earnest recommendation of Governor Darling, and Captain James Stirling, who appears to have been His Excellency's personal representative to the Home Government, was sent to England to receive instructions, and to take charge of the work of organising the expedition, should it be determined upon. In the meantime, about April, 1829, to Captain Fremantle, of H.M.S. "Challenger," who had been despatched for the purpose by Commodore Stirling, of the Indian Squadron, was entrusted the hoisting of the British flag, and the taking possession of the newly-examined country. Captain Fremantle thereupon proceeded to the coast, and anchored off the Swan River. On the 1st June, 1829, he hoisted the British flag on the north side of the stream, at the locality which now bears his name, taking formal possession in the name of His Majesty King George IV, of all that part of New Holland which is not included within the territory of New South Wales.

It would appear that Captain Stirling reached England in 1828, for the first Order in Council having reference to the Swan River settlement is dated in the month of December of that year. This Order, for the encouragement of emigration to the new colony offered advantageous terms to persons proceeding to it, at their own expense, during the currency of the year 1829. The Home Government, indeed, refused to incur the cost of a single passage or to undertake the maintenance of emigrants on their arrival in the new land, or their subsequent removal from it if such should be found necessary; but all persons who should arrive before the end of the year 1830, according to a later Order in Council, were promised grants of land, free of quit rent, in proportion to the capital introduced by them, to be invested in the improvement of their holdings, at the rate of 40 acres for every sum of £3 invested—or, 1s. 6d. per acre; choice to be made of situation in the order of arrival. The invested capital was scheduled to comprise (1) Stock of every description; (2) all implements of husbandry, and other articles applicable to the purposes of the productive industry, or necessary for the establishment of the settler on the land where he was to be located; (3) the amount of any half pay or pension received from Government. Persons who imported labour were entitled, for the passage of every labouring person brought into the Colony, to land to the value of £15—namely, 200 acres; the importer of labour being, however, liable, in the event of such necessity, for the future maintenance of the work people introduced. This privilege applied to women, and to children above 10 years of age

those being classed simply as labourers. A condition was attached that any of these conceded lands, which at the end of twenty years had not been sufficiently reclaimed, or satisfactorily improved, should revert absolutely to the Crown. As already stated, the first Order in Council dealing with emigration to the Swan River settlement limited the land privileges to the currency of 1829; the later Order extended the time for the issue of free grants until the end of 1830. But, apparently, the original offer was considered to be more liberal than expedient, as, according to the second Order, it was declared that selections licenses could be granted to settlers on proof of value of property imported, but the fee simple could not be obtained until proof was given that the sum of 1s. 6d. per acre had been expended in the cultivation of the land, or in other solid improvements. It was further stipulated that all granted lands were, within three years of occupation, either to be cultivated or otherwise improved, to a fair proportion of at least one fourth, or the owners would be liable to the payment of 6d. per acre into the public chest: and should the lands, at the end of seven years, still remain in a state of nature, they were to be forfeited absolutely to the Crown. After the end of the year 1830 further modifications of the free grant system were introduced, and before long it was totally abolished, land being subsequently obtainable, by purchase only, at varying rates. The land regulations under which the first settlement of the colony was effected, however, largely influenced its early history, and the result of their application is felt even at the present time.

The tempting offers made by the Imperial Government of grants of land, large and small, in proportion to the amount of property introduced, attracted many capitalists, and the consequence was that extensive tracts of the finest territory were granted to purely speculative investors. The efforts of the Colonial Office to obtain emigrants for the Swan River settlement were, therefore, successful beyond all anticipation: the eager competitors for property absolutely gave no way, knowing, of course, comparatively nothing of the character of the country in which they proposed to settle, or of the hardships, deprivations, and dangers that must of necessity beset them.

The first vessels to sail from England for the settlement at the Swan River were H.M.S. "Sulphur," having on board a detachment of the 63rd Regiment of Light Infantry, and the hired transport "Parmelia," which carried the emigrants and the principal part of the stock and implements. The two ships left England about the 13th or 14th February, 1829. On the 6th June following the "Parmelia" anchored in Cockburn Sound, having on board Lieutenant Governor Stirling and his family; the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Peter Brown; the Surveyor General, Lieutenant Roe, R.N., their wives and families; Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Sutherland, Mr. George Eliot, and other intending settlers, numbering in all sixty nine. Two days later arrived H.M.S. 'Sulphur,' having on board Captain F. C. Irwin, in command of the

pany of the 63rd Regiment, comprising a staff officer, three lieutenants, two sergeants, three corporals, a bugler, and forty-six rank and file. Having left a party of about half its strength to protect the stores, settlers, etc., on Garden Island (Buache), the remainder of the troops disembarked on the 17th June and encamped on the north bank of the Swan River (now Rous Head), relieving the party of seamen and marines from H.M.S. "Challenger," which had been left in charge of the British flag planted there by Captain Fremantle on the 1st June. Thus, the landing of the immigrants from the "Parmelia" the history of Western Australia begins.

After the "Parmelia" followed the "Calista," the "St. Leonard," the Marquis of Anglesea,' and within eighteen months some thirty more vessels, carrying to the settlement over a thousand immigrants, representing, it is said, £100,000 in money, stock, or goods, on account of which, before the year 1830 had ended, claims for more than a million acres in free grants of land had been presented. Up to the 31st December of the year mentioned there had arrived in the Colony, nearly as can be reckoned, and without counting the detachment of troops and their families, about 1,767 persons, bringing with them stock represented by 101 horses, 583 head of cattle, 7,981 sheep, 66 pigs, 35 goats, and a variety of poultry. Between the 1st September, 1829, and the 30th June, 1830, the value of the property introduced, upon which land was claimed, amounted to £73,260 8s. 3½d., equal, at 1s. per acre, to 976,805 acres of freehold land, while miscellaneous property, applicable to the improvement of land, had been imported to the value of £21,021 2s. 7d., making a total value of £94,281 10s. 10½d. The best land was appropriated on the free grant system so rapidly and so prodigally that persons arriving within a few months of the first settlement of the colony could find no land available within easy access of the two rivers Swan and Canning—along whose course settlement was then only possible. There were, of course, at this time no made roads, and the bush tracks consisted solely of dry, heavy sand. Water carriage was, therefore, the sole means of transport for produce. The only way to obtain land in an accessible position, and suitable for agricultural purposes, was for a new arrival to take over a portion of a block already in occupation, guaranteeing to the grantee to perform a certain work in the way of improvements on the part taken, as to secure the whole concession—the remainder of the property, in such a case, in all probability would be left permanently in a state of nature. In course of time, and as the result of inability to cope with unaccustomed conditions numerous would-be settlers left the Colony in disgust; but they still retained possession of the immense tracts of land granted to them; hence population was thinly scattered over a wide area, the pick of the territory being unprofitably locked up.

From these re-emigrations it will be seen that many of the earliest settlers were persons entirely unqualified for pioneer life and the

[illegible] confronting those who essay to "rough it" in [illegible]. The first immigrants, indeed, comprised mainly [illegible] and good position, their tenderly nurtured [illegible] and unaccustomed servants and agricultural labourers. They [illegible] retired officers of the Army and Navy, proteges [illegible] servants, and some of the younger sons of English [illegible] wealth and high social standing. It is not to be wondered [illegible] that these settlers, landing as they did in a most inclement [illegible] and wholly unprepared for the rude experiences they had to [illegible], could have sent home reports of a most gloomy and dis[illegible] nature.

[illegible] also, but gradually, it was found that the expectations [illegible] as to the fertility of the soil had been far too sanguine. Food [illegible] scarce, and pastoral and agricultural operations languished [illegible] capital to stock and to till the lands. To these drawbacks [illegible] serious losses of stock from disease or from eating the poison [illegible], and it became apparent that the young colony could only with [illegible] difficulty maintain itself independent of outside assistance. [illegible] disaster came serious trouble with the natives. Not only [illegible] houses robbed by their dusky foes, their crops torn up by the [illegible], and their cattle speared, but even the lives of the disheartened [illegible] were daily in danger, and it was all but determined on one [illegible] occasion to abandon the infant settlement; indeed, but for [illegible] action, by the Governor, things would have gone ill with a [illegible] of the colony from this menacing source. Between Bunbury [illegible] Geographe Bay and Peel's Inlet is the only break in the monotony of [illegible] low sandhills which fringe the coast. On the banks of the River Murray, a stream of some importance flowing into this backwater of [illegible], Mr. Peel, one of the earliest of the first settlers, established [illegible] in days gone by, and here, at the small hamlet of Pinjarrah [illegible] in its neighbourhood, a small and scattered population is still [illegible]. This place is memorable in the history of Western [illegible] as the scene of the most serious of the many skirmishes [illegible] in the first few years of settlement took place between the [illegible] and the aborigines. In the year 1834 the members of the [illegible] tribes had committed atrocious murders on several of the [illegible] residents in the district, and in the month of October the [illegible], Sir James Stirling, accompanied by Mr. Peel and several [illegible], put himself at the head of a party of military and [illegible] and coming upon the culprits in large numbers on the banks of the Murray, some 10 miles from Peel's Inlet, he engaged them, and [illegible] a smart skirmish put them to flight. In this locally celebrated "Battle of Pinjarrah" a considerable number of natives were killed, [illegible] several of the settlers more or less seriously injured. The result [illegible], however, that outrages and depredations on the part of the [illegible] almost wholly ceased, and that friendly relations between them [illegible] the white population ultimately grew up.

Captain Stirling, the superintendent of the first colonising expedition, was, before departing from England, created Lieutenant Governor, and a promise was made that a Bill would be submitted to Parliament to make provision for the Civil Government of the new colony, which promise was duly fulfilled when, on the 14th May, 1829, "An Act to provide until the 31st day of December, 1834, for the Government of His Majesty's Settlement in Western Australia, on the Western Coast of New Holland," received the Royal Assent. The officials appointed comprised a Secretary to the Government, a Government Surveyor and Assistant Surveyor, a Harbour-master, a Deputy Harbour-master and Pilot, a Superintendent of Government Farms, Gardens, and Plantations, a Superintendent of Government Stock, a Storekeeper, a Civil Engineer, a Registrar, and a Surgeon—a list strikingly eloquent of the primitive and patriarchal nature of the first settlement, in which several of the functions usually left to private individuals were professionally discharged by Government.

On the 8th June, 1829, the Lieutenant-Governor issued a warrant for the establishment of a Board of Commissioners, who should examine into and report upon such matters as might be referred to it relative to the management of the property within the settlement, and for the purpose of auditing and passing all public accounts, and demanding, receiving, and duly apportioning all fines, fees, and forfeitures accruing or becoming due to the Government. The Board, as first constituted, consisted of the Harbour-master, Captain Mark J. Currie, R.N., as presiding commissioner, together with the Government Surveyor, Lieutenant John Septimus Roe, R.N.; and Mr. William Sterling, the lastnamed acting also as registrar and secretary *pro tem.* This body was called the Board of Council and Audit.

By an Order in Council, dated the 1st November, 1830, the first Executive Council of the Colony of Western Australia was constituted. The Order in question, after settling the Constitution of the Council, declared its authority and power to make, ordain, and establish all such laws and ordinances, and to constitute such Courts and officers as might be necessary for the peace, order, and good government of His Majesty's subjects, and others, within the settlements. In the constitution of the Executive Council, as set forth in the Order of November, 1830, no change took place until June, 1847, when, under the authority of a Royal Order in Council, the Collector of Revenue was appointed an Executive Officer.

Notwithstanding the fact that a good number of the early settlers had returned to England or departed to the eastern colonies, where the conditions of life were less rugged, steady progress was made by those who remained. The towns of Perth and Freemantle had been much improved, while settlement was extending on the river flats. Higher up the river, farms and gardens had been laid out, and at Guildford the husbandmen brought out by Mr. Peel were turning the rich soil to profitable account. On the upper Swan River; on the Canning, to the

[illegible] over the hills, at York; on the River Murray, at Augusta, and at King George's Sound.—settlement was industriously spreading. Governor Stirling, in a despatch to Sir George Murray, G.C.B., then Secretary for State for the Colonies, writes of the colonists about this time as working with a cheerful confidence in the qualities of the country, and a general belief in its future prosperity: and for a time the young settlement really did progress with a slow yeomanlike steadfastness.

In comparison with the eastern colonies, however, which progressed by leaps and bounds, Western Australia seemed to advance with very halting gait. Still, it must be remembered that the western colony was the victim of a peculiar set of circumstances. In the first place, as previously mentioned, the early colonists were not the best fitted for pioneer work in a new country. Then, again, the colony was in an isolated position, cut off by 2,000 miles of unknown country from the eastern settlements, and rarely visited by the ocean carriers of commerce. The discoveries, too, of valuable mineral deposits which had brought wealth and progress to the eastern colonies, had yet to be made in Western Australia. Moreover, the land, except in comparatively restricted areas, was barren, and in many places infested with a plant which poisoned flocks and herds feeding on it, while nearly all the best land was locked up in large grants, owned by persons who were for the most part at little pains to develop them. However, despite all these drawbacks, the small community of settlers was, generally speaking, so united, and consisted of people of such cultured tastes, that the earlier years of the colony's history were socially the brightest.

Captain James Stirling, R.N., who held the rank of Lieutenant Governor, administered the affairs of the settlement from the 6th June, 1829, to September, 1832. The next Lieutenant Governor was Captain Irwin, the Commandant of the Forces, who continued in office till the month of September, 1833. Then followed Captain Richard Daniell, up to May, 1834, when for a fortnight the colony was administered by Captain Paxton Beete, Daniell resuming control of affairs and continuing in office till August, 1834, at which date Captain Stirling (now Sir James Stirling) entered upon his second term, this time as Governor with full rank, which closed at the end of the year 1838.

In the meantime the free-grant land system of settlement, which had been inaugurated with the first days of colonisation, had been working out in anything but a satisfactory manner. Magnificent estates had been lavishly squandered upon propertied immigrants during the first few years of the colony's existence, and the splendid territorial munificence of the Government soon began to show its retarding influence on the country's progress. All the best land, the "eyes" of the districts watered by the Swan, the Canning, and the Avon, as well as the finest patches in the vicinity of the more southern settlements, were [illegible] It is now recognised that if the conditions originally imposed in the making of these grants had been rigidly insisted upon

abiding mischief might have been inflicted upon the young colony. The Orders in Council, under which the Governor was empowered to act, offered land in extent proportioned only to capital invested in the colony for purposes of absolute improvement. Practically, however, grants of land were made for any and every kind of property the immigrant who imported it might choose to make a claim for in the form of acreage. Even articles of furniture, art, and plate, were assessed as valuable accretions to the colony's wealth, and acknowledged in donations carved from the public estate. Again, the occupation obligations were carried out neither in the letter nor in the spirit. It is recorded that full and unconditional titles were readily obtained, and that over a million acres of the best portions of those districts which, from the nearness to the chief township and the seaport of the colony, might most easily have been brought into profitable cultivation, became "locked up" in a huge land monopoly. When the poorer emigrants—the labourers and the tradesmen, and such servants as had achieved freedom from their indentures—sought to establish themselves upon the soil, they found that they were shut out from these very areas where their enterprise and their labour would have been most productively and usefully applied.

Sir James Stirling gave up the reins of Government at the end of the year, 1838. He was succeeded by Governor John Hutt, whose administration lasted from January, 1839, to December, 1845. The next Governor was Lieutenant-Colonel Andrew Clarke, from February, 1846, to February, 1847. Then came Governor Lieutenant-Colonel Irwin, from February, 1847, to July, 1848, and Captain Charles Fitzgerald, from August, 1848, to June 1855; and the term of office of the last named officer ushers in a new era in the history of Western Australia. When the colony was founded, the Imperial authorities had made an agreement with the first settlers that no convicts or prisoners were to be transported to the new settlement, as was the case with regard to New South Wales and Tasmania. Some twenty years had elapsed by, and Western Australia numbered close upon 7,000 inhabitants; 4,000 acres had been brought into cultivation, sheep had increased to 140,000, cattle to 11,000, imports had reached a value of £45,000, and exports £30,000. Nevertheless, the struggle to make a living was becoming harder and harder, trade was languishing, labour was difficult to obtain, and immigrants did not appear to find the country attractive enough to bring them thither—a result, doubtless, of the manner in which the land was locked up in big estates. "Widespread depression prevailed amongst the colonists, and at last, though with dire misgivings on the part of many, they decided to petition the Home Government for the introduction of convicted prisoners, hoping thus to obtain cheap labour, an abundant expenditure, and a market for their cheap produce." The colonists of Western Australia had no difficulty in gaining a complaisant answer to their petition; for at this juncture, the Imperial authorities were feeling the pressing necessity of having some oversea settlement suitable for the deportation

The first batch of convicts was landed at Fremantle on the 1st June, 1850. Transportation to the colony was continued for about eighteen years, during which time some 10,000 members of the criminal class were added to its population. In the earlier years of the "transportation system" the convicts who were sent to Western Australia did not by any means belong to the worst type of criminal. Some of the shipments, indeed, were selected with special care, and with a view to meeting the requirements of a young settlement colony. Although there was undoubtedly a sprinkling of the great villains, a great proportion of those sent out consisted of agricultural labourers who were transported for some petty infraction of the game laws. Prisoners of this class were of great use during their term of sentence, and later on developed into an excellent body of settlers.

Governor Fitzgerald retired from office in June, 1855, and was succeeded in the administration by Arthur Edward Kennedy, afterwards Sir Arthur Edward Kennedy, and Governor of Queensland. Kennedy's term of office came to an end in February, 1862. for ten days or so the Government was administered by Lieutenant-Colonel John Bruce, as Acting-Governor, and then John S. Hampton, took over the control of the colony.

The complaints against the use of bond labour in injudicious directions which were frequently made in Governor Fitzgerald's time disappeared with Hampton's assumption of office. His admirers declare that there was an absolute change for the better all round. He had qualified himself for the position of Governor of a penal settlement by holding an office of authority in Tasmania connected with the convict system of that colony. He was a stern disciplinarian, and was able to gauge to a nicety how to get the maximum of work from the human muscle, and how to employ convict labour to the best advantage. He set to work with a will to improve the colony's means of communication, and succeeded so well that it has been said of him: "On nearly every mile of macadamised road, in the covering of many a heavy sand-stretch with well-laid metal, and in bridges and causeways innumerable over river and swamp, from one end of the settled districts to the other."

Governor Hampton surrendered his office in the month of November, 1868, and with the termination of his regime the era of convictism was closed, but with the cessation of transportation, and the immediate source of prison labour, passed away also the large Imperial expenditure, although the withdrawal was gradual. The settlers at first felt this rather keenly, for though willing enough to be cleansed of the convict "taint," they were far from pleased at the loss of the solatium in currency. The "system" had reigned in the Colony about eighteen years, and the settlers' expectation of material advantage accruing from its continuance in their midst had been

fairly satisfied. Nevertheless, beyond giving cheap labour, and a large circulation of money, transportation had done nothing for the general advancement of the colony, and had rather fostered than removed its chief bane—isolation. Transportation had ceased in the case of New South Wales in 1849; in that of Tasmania, in 1852; it had never been introduced into Victoria, South Australia, and (since its birth as a colony) Queensland. The eastern and southern colonies, therefore, looked askance at the distant western settlement.

After the conclusion of Governor Hampton's term of office, the colony was administered, from November, 1868, to September, 1869, by Lieutenant-Colonel John Bruce, the Commandant of the Forces, as Acting-Governor. Frederick A. Weld, was the next Governor, and he ruled the Colony from September, 1869, to December, 1874. During his *régime*, and by an order of the Queen in Council, dated the 3rd April, 1871, the Executive Council was remodelled. The Governor remained President; the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Senior Officer in command of the Land Forces, and the Surveyor-General retained their seats, whilst those of the Comptroller-General and Collector of Revenue were abolished.

Governor Weld, who had been trained to political and public life in the progressive and restless colony of New Zealand, saw with dismay the condition of stagnation in which Western Australia seemed perfectly contented to remain. He had been accustomed to a country which enjoyed a considerable measure of freedom and prosperity. Filled with enthusiasm, he conceived it to be his duty to break down the barriers which shut in the colony from intercourse with the outside world, as well as to provide more adequate means of communication between the centres of settlement within it. His first task was to arrange for regular steam communication between Albany, the Vasse, Bunbury, Fremantle, and Geraldton. This was the beginning of a trade which steadily grew, and later on all the intermediate ports between Albany and Cambridge Gulf enjoyed the advantages of a regular and efficient steam service. The Governor next turned his attention to the question of telegraphic communication, and in spite of the apathy of the colonists on the subject, had the satisfaction, before his departure, of seeing all the principal centres of population connected by telegraph lines. The closing act of this energetic Governor and true benefactor to the people whom he governed, was the planting of the first pole of the line of wire which has since brought Western Australia into direct communication with the other colonies of Australasia and with the world. During Mr. Weld's term of office he made a strong attempt to move the colonists in the direction of railway construction, though this could not, considering the colony's limited resources, be carried out on anything like an extensive scale at that time, he had the satisfaction of seeing a beginning made with two distinct railway systems, one commencing at Geraldton and the other at Fremantle.

to Mr Weld's practical and progres
to the works already alluded to a
various industries, notably mining
representative Legislature was established;
introduced, an Education Act was passed;
were successfully conducted by Mr. John

however, that useful explorations had
and had greatly furthered the extension of
as the year 1831, Captain Bannister had
from Perth to King George's Sound, and his
the regular overland route.

afterwards Sir George Grey) set out on an
the north-west and western portions
although the work was hindered by the opposition
among the exploring party, important
geographical knowledge. Then Lieutenant
made several journeys eastward
explorers, but their discoveries
In 1839 Grey set out on his second
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believed that although
by a belt of desert land, beyond the
country. Various efforts were
surrounding waste. In 1813
made a short excursion from York, but
their exploration. Again, in 1846, three
set out from Bolgart Spring, the farthest stock
eastward, with the object of discovering fresh pastoral land.
passed over in their eastward journey was found, however,
barren and inhospitable, and interspersed here and there with
salt lakes. The explorers next turned their attention to the
crossed by Grey in his disastrous expedition to Shark's Bay,
the head of one of these, the Arrowsmith, a seam of coal was
found.

Another expedition eastward, in charge of Lieutenant Roe, who was accompanied by Mr. H. C. Gregory, set out on the 14th September, 1848. Beyond making further additions to the stock of geographical knowledge, the result of the expedition was unsatisfactory. In December of the same year Governor Fitzgerald, accompanied by Messrs. A. C. Gregory and Bland, proceeded to the scene of the discovery of coal already alluded to. During this expedition a serious conflict arose with the aborigines, in the course of which the Governor was wounded by a spear. In 1858 Mr. F. Gregory made important discoveries of excellent pastoral lands on the banks of the rivers previously crossed by Grey, and his expedition added greatly to geographical knowledge. In 1861 another expedition, led by Mr. F. Gregory made Nickol Bay, on the north west coast, the starting point of its explorations. This expedition was very successful, discovering several important rivers, amongst others the Fortescue, Ashburton, De Grey, Oakover, &c., and opening up some splendid pastoral country. Mr. Walcott, who was second in command, also discovered the existence of the pearl-shell beds, which have since proved such a source of income to the Colony.

It was not long before enterprising pastoralists occupied the newly-discovered pasture lands. Mr. Padbury, in 1863, sent the first shipment of stock to Butcher's Inlet, and thence occupation rapidly spread eastward to the De Grey River. Subsequently an attempt was made at forming a settlement at Roebuck Bay, but the hostility of the aborigines, coupled with bad seasons and misfortunes generally, led to its abandonment in 1867.

In 1864 a small settlement was established at Camden Harbour, the country round which had been reported as very suitable for colonisation. But from its very inception nothing but disaster was met with, the grass proved unsuitable for stock, the poison plant was found in abundance, the colonists themselves suffered from ill-health, and the natives were very hostile. Consequently it was decided to abandon the settlement, and the decision was acted on in 1865.

In the tract of country, known as the "Nor'-West," which lies between the De Grey and Ashburton Rivers, there were grouped, by the end of 1867, the original pioneers of the district, some later arrivals, and the remnant of the Roebuck Bay and Camden Harbour experiments. To these must be added the members of a company formed in Melbourne, in 1865, to settle A. C. Gregory's recently discovered Denison Plains. The colonists of the "Nor'-west" suffered many hardships in the early days of settlement. The decline in the price of wool, and the large expenses coincident with the maintaining of a Colony so far removed from the basis of supply proved a heavy strain on their original resources. But later on, with the advent of more favourable seasons, and the rise in price of wool, prospects became brighter, and this district now ranks among the finest pastoral areas in the Colony.

In 1869 Mr. (afterwards Sir) John Forrest made his first exploration, in the course of which he penetrated 250 miles farther eastward than

[illegible] country, but the country passed over proved to [illegible]. Mr. Forrest was next given command of [illegible] for its object the traversing of the country betw[illegible] along the shores of the Great Australian Bi[illegible] proved that the desert surrounding the tall c[illegible] was extend for any great distance inland, where, inde[illegible] pastoral country, although the absence of perman[illegible] a great drawback. In 1871 he made a sec[illegible] new pastoral country. The one important circ[illegible] these expeditions was the absence of any r[illegible] might have been unwittingly crossed at its mo[illegible]

[illegible] country between the Transcontinental Telegraph l[illegible] Settlements now became the area of the keen[illegible] In 1872 Ernest Giles led an expedition in[illegible] to the westward but his progress was stayed by [illegible], to which he gave the name of Lake Amadeus. [illegible] his comrade, named Gibson, lost his life in [illegible] Gibson's desert.

[illegible] expedition was fitted out by Messrs. Hughes and Eld[illegible] which was entrusted to Colonel Warburton. Af[illegible] hardships the party managed to reach the head[illegible] River, but the results of the expedition were disappointi[illegible] year a party, under the leadership of Mr. Gosse, discove[illegible] country in the vicinity of the Marryat and Alberga Rive[illegible] arid nature of the country precluded exploration to the we[illegible]

[illegible] the most remarkable journeys in the annals of Australi[illegible] was that undertaken by Mr John Forrest in 1874. Colon[illegible] had succeeded in crossing the desert, albeit naked a[illegible] where he reached the coast. John Forrest determined [illegible] boat, and to accomplish it on more prudential and mo[illegible] lines. With this object in view an expedition was fitted ou[illegible] John Forrest as leader, his brother Alexander, two oth[illegible] and two natives, with ordinary pack and saddle horses. On t[illegible] 1874 the party left Yuin, then the furthest outside statio[illegible] Murchison River. For the first six weeks there was little [illegible] The route lay along river-courses and through well grasse[illegible] When the explorers struck eastward they were fortunate [illegible] some fine wells. Their agreeable experiences lasted unt[illegible] got into the spinifex country, and then their troubles commence[illegible] On 8th June the leader started with one black boy to look fo[illegible] leaving instructions for the party to follow up in a few days[illegible] The two travelled 20 miles over undulating sand-hills clothe[illegible] spinifex, but were unable to find the priceless fluid. Fro[illegible] top of a low stony rise the view was gloomy in the extreme[illegible] the north and east it was all spinifex country, quite lev[illegible]

and destitute of water. They turned back and met the remainder of the party a few miles from the spring at which they had been camped. A retreat was beaten, and the entire expedition fell back upon its former oasis. A day was taken to rest in, and then Alexander Forrest and a black boy went forth on a quest for water towards the south-east. During their absence the natives made an unexpected attack upon the camp, but they were repulsed after a desperate struggle. Alexander Forrest and the black boy had travelled over 50 miles from camp, and, though they had passed over much good grazing country, they had found no signs of water. The explorers now set to work and built a rough hut of stone, in order to ensure safety from the blacks during the night; for their stay at Weld Springs seemed likely to be indefinite, and a fresh attack might be expected at any moment. When the hut was completed, Forrest, taking with him a black boy, started out on a flying journey due eastward. This time they were fortunate in finding a small supply in some clay waterholes, and the whole party thereupon removed to this locality. On the 22nd June the leader started on another quest ahead, and 30 miles distant found a fine supply of water in a gully running through a grassy plain, where there was abundant fodder for the horses. Eight miles to the southward was discovered a small salt lake, to which was given the name Augusta. On the 30th June, John Forrest, while exploring ahead and searching for water, pushed far into the spinifex desert with his horses "knocked up." By the aid of scanty pools of rain-water in the rocks, he managed to push on for some distance, walking most of the way. He reached a range, and from its summit had an extensive but discouraging view. Far as the eye could pierce, the horizon was as level and as uniform as the sea—everywhere spinifex: no hills or ranges loomed in the distance. It was disheartening in the extreme. From time to time this experience was repeated. The supply of water was as precarious as it was priceless. Sometimes one of the brothers, sometimes the other, would find a scarce quantity in the rock hollows and clay-pans of the desert. Sometimes both would fail. Now and again the finds of water were copious, as in the case of Wandich, Pierre, Weld, and Alexander Springs. Generally, however, they were scanty, and rapidly exhausted. Eventually the explorers got into country which, though anything but desirable as pasture land, nevertheless yielded them water. Here they were within a hundred miles of Gosse's "furthest" westward, and to span this short distance proved a weary work. Repeated excursions resulted only in repeated disappointments and "knocked up" horses. At last a generous shower of rain filled some rock holes to the north-east of their camp, and after much exertion the whole party managed to reach an old stopping-place used by the explorer Giles, and named by him Fort Mueller. By this time they were also on Gosse's tracks, and the leader was able to congratulate himself upon the successful accomplishment of his task. From this point to the Transcontinental

Telegraph Line the route is practically that followed by Gosse, and on the 27th September Forrest struck the wire some distance north of the Peake Station, thus concluding a most valuable expedition in a highly satisfactory manner. On his arrival at the station Forrest learned that Giles and Ross had both turned their backs upon the inhospitable country which he had traversed in safety and with success

The history of Western Australia is the history of a succession of pastoral settlements following in the wake of successful exploration, and in this connection it may be remarked that not one of the other colonies presented such terrible natural obstacles to the progress of the pioneer. As settlement extended Government residents were appointed to the charge of various districts with executive and legal functions, the chief law officer being styled Commissioner of the Civil Court The Civil Service was expanded gradually, but during the first forty years of the colony's history the system of Government underwent little change There was little desire during this period for administration of a more popular type. The Governors were anxious to learn the wants of the colonists and where possible to meet them. They maintained personal relations of a friendly social description with the leading settlers, and the views and the expressed wishes of the upper classes had full weight in determining the policy of the Government. The populations of the towns were too small to originate democratic ideals, or to agitate for constitutional reform. It is, of course, obvious that during the convict period personal government was almost a necessity; but no sooner had transportation ceased than political aspirations began to awaken, and the people evinced a desire to partake more directly in the management of their affairs. In the year 1870 Governor Weld was allowed to introduce a Constitution in which the Executive remained practically the same, but it was assisted by a Legislature, two-thirds of the members of which were returned by the constituencies into which the colony had been divided This system of administration appears to have been well suited to the circumstances of the country at that time, and, in conjunction with municipal institutions, road boards, and boards of education (which were simultaneously established), served to prepare the people for the exercise of more advanced self-governing powers.

Up to the time of Governor Weld's arrival the Colonial Secretary had held a position practically little removed above that of the Governor's Chief Clerk, but to Mr. F. P. Barlee, who then occupied the post, the new administrator extended a far greater measure of confidence than had been enjoyed by any of the Secretary's predecessors, Mr Barlee being permitted to assume a virtually ministerial position. When the time approached for the Governor's departure, the Chief Secretary, being desirous of keeping the measure of influence which he had gained, conceived the idea of becoming Premier under a form of Responsible Government. With this end in view he gained over the Governor's support to the scheme, and also enlisted the sympathies of several of the more prominent members of the Legislative Council.

Accordingly, in 1874, resolutions were passed urging the Governor to introduce a Constitution Bill conferring Responsible Government upon the colony. To this His Excellency gave his consent, but differences of opinion arose as to the details of the measure, and the Legislature was dissolved.

Governor Weld continued in office until December, 1874, and was succeeded by William C. F. Robinson, in the month of January in the year following. Upon the meeting of the new Legislative Council resolutions were again adopted expressing a desire for Constitutional change, to which eventually a discouraging reply was received from the Colonial Office. Governor Robinson had received instructions to throw cold water on the movement, but his task was by no means easy until the departure of Mr Barlee from the colony. The Colonial Secretary, dissatisfied, as he expected to be, with the restricted position in which he found himself with an administrator of the old school took leave of absence, and subsequently accepted the Government of Honduras. With the withdrawal of its energetic leader, the Responsible Government Party collapsed.

During the early part of Governor Robinson's term of office a noteworthy exploratory journey was made from South Australia at the expense of Sir Thomas Elder, and under the leadership of Ernest Giles, who had twice previously been driven back in his efforts to cross the great Western Australian desert. The expedition set out from Beltana, and travelled to Youldah where a depôt was formed. From the latter place the explorers started on their long and toilsome journey, and eventually reached an out station in Western Australia on the 4th November. From this point Giles retraced his steps to the Transcontinental Telegraph Line, following a track to the northward of the route traversed by Forrest.

Governor Robinson's term of office was extremely uneventful. Instead of stimulating the activities of the colonists, and leading the progressive party as Governor Weld had done, Robinson sought to restrain and modify their ambitions and aspirations. His administration concluded in August, 1877, and for some four months Lieutenant-Colonel Edward Douglas Harvest controlled the affairs of the Colony until the arrival of the new Governor, Major General Sir Harry St. George Ord, in November of the same year.

The new Governor soon found that public opinion had drifted strongly towards responsible government not from any great dissatisfaction with the local policy pursued by the Governor and his advisers, but rather on account of the restraints which the policy of the Colonial Office imposed upon a forward movement in local affairs. In the Legislative Council a motion in favour of Responsible Government was again brought forward. It was rejected, but only that an amendment might be substituted plainly intimating that it would soon become impossible to stem the movement if the Secretary of State for the Colonies continued the existing practice of interfering and thwarting the popular longing

for progressive measures. The Governor took advantage of a visit paid by the Hon John Forrest to England to make, through that gentleman, strong representations upon the mischievous tendency of this obstructive policy. The result was that the officials of the Colonial Office gradually lessened the frequency of their intervention in the affairs of the Colony, and authority for several much needed railway works, hitherto held back, was granted and the requisite loans sanctioned. These grievances assuaged, another soon arose respecting the lack of control possessed by the House of Legislature over the expenditure of public money. No real power rested with the representatives of the people in this matter. Estimates indeed were passed, but as a mere matter of form. What moneys the Government thought fit to spend they spent, the Legislature was powerless to prevent them. However, no accusations of wild extravagance could be brought against the Governor and his Executive. They spent no more than they deemed necessary in the interests of the public service. But by making themselves independent of the House for their requirements they completely deprived that body of the power which it would necessarily have exercised had it controlled the public purse. The colonist had, however, to wait for a time in patience for the guardianship of the finances.

Early in 1879 Western Australia sent out another of the exploring parties which formed such a feature, indeed, the salient feature, of her history. The leadership was given to Alexander Forrest, who had accompanied his brother John on two of his great journeys into the interior. Funds were provided by the Government, and horses and equipments by the "Nor' West' settlers. Alexander Forrest, with a small party, left Anderson's station, on the De Grey River, with a view of proceeding overland to King's Sound, and thence of penetrating through the Kimberleys to South Australia. The expedition set out on the 25th February, 1877, and reached Beagle Bay on the 10th April. Success of the most gratifying character attended this trip, though during its latter part the explorers were subjected to great hardships and privations. Leaving Beagle Bay the party followed the coast round to the Fitzroy River (which empties into King's Sound), and journeyed along the course of that stream, tracing it to its point of emergence from the fastnesses of the Leopold Range, and examining the rich pasturage of the adjacent alluvial flats. The Leopold Range for a time barred further progress, so a return was made to the Fitzroy River, and by following up an affluent named the Margaret the explorers were enabled after a time to work round the foot of the range. Shortly after this a fine river was discovered and named the Ord, and this stream was followed to its junction with the Negri, where they left it and continued their way to the Telegraph Line, passing through fairly good country. After leaving the Victoria River the privations of the party commenced, and Forrest and a companion named Hicks pushed on alone, and eventually met a repairing party from which they obtained supplies for their companions. This trip must be considered as one of

the most important in the annals of West Australian exploration, as the country opened up has since been stocked with sheep and cattle, and large mineral wealth has also been developed. The Government Geologist, who accompanied the party, gave it as his opinion that gold-bearing strata would be found in the country lying at the head waters of the Fitzroy and Ord Rivers, and after events have shown the correctness of his surmise.

Major-General Sir Harry St. George Ord was succeeded in the month of April, 1880, by Sir William Cleaver Francis Robinson, who therewith entered upon his second term of office as Governor of Western Australia.

In 1881 a further loan was raised for carrying out the construction of the Fremantle, Perth and Guildford Railway. The first loan was obtained in 1879, but a third was necessary in 1883, and with the proceeds of these loans much was done to extend the railway facilities of the colony, and the Government was able to claim that it had brought every centre of population in the eastern agricultural areas into direct railway communication with the capital and its port. A great deal was expected from the completion of these lines in regard to increased settlement and agricultural expansion; there was, however, very little of either.

In 1883 the Hon. John Forrest, who had succeeded Mr. (afterwards Sir Malcolm Fraser as Surveyor-General, sailed for Derby, a port in the West Kimberley District, accompanied by several parties of surveyors, and by Mr E. T. Hardman, of H.M. Geological Survey of England. The object of this expedition was a further and more extended examination of the two Kimberley Districts, and the carrying out of the surveys that had now become absolutely necessary. During this journey the country between the Leopold Range and the coast was examined, its rivers explored, and its geological formation noted and charted. The only metalliferous deposits, however, observed by Mr. Hardman on this trip were ironstone, a poor hematite in large quantities, and in the gravels of the Fitzroy River, minute, dark, heavy grains, which had all the appearance of stream tin.

Sir William Robinson's second term of office as Governor concluded on the 17th February, 1883. Until the 2nd of June of the same year the colony was administered by Chief Justice H. T. Wrenfordsley, and then arrived Sir Frederick Napier Broome who ruled the country some six and a half years.

In 1884 Mr H Stockdale set out on an exploring expedition with the object of examining the country in the neighbourhood of Cambridge Gulf. Leaving the Gulf and crossing the range through a natural gap, to which the leader of the expedition gave his own name, the explorers came upon a well grassed and watered region. Later on the fine stream known as the Lorimer was discovered. Stockdale afterwards reached the Transcontinental Telegraph Line, but two of the party, who refused to proceed and were left behind at a camp with supplies of provisions, were never afterwards heard of.

east, which had hitherto only been crossed from east to west, or *vice versâ*. The country passed over was in general extremely inhospitable. One result of the expedition was the proving of the impracticability of a direct stock route between Kimberley and the North Coolgardie fields.

While the "Eastern Railway" was being built, the Government of Western Australia, on the motion of the Legislative Council, made it known that the colony was open to receive offers for railway construction on the land grant system. By this means it was hoped that, while much needed transit facilities would be obtained without adding to an already comparatively large indebtedness, immigration and settlement would be promoted, and outside capital embarked in developing the resources of the country. As already pointed out, the country had been largely colonised on the eighteen pence an acre basis paid by purchasers of land in the form of personal property introduced. The Governor himself received 100,000 acres in lieu of salary, although, when his services were assessed at £800 per annum, it was ultimately paid from the date of his appointment. But this system of settlement left the colony practically and permanently undeveloped, by causing the dispersion over a wide area of a very small population. No wonder, then, that a solution of this matter should have been looked for in the promotion of land grant systems of railway construction. Various negotiations were entered into and dropped, but a contract was at last signed by Sir Frederick Napier Broome and Mr. Anthony Hordern, of Sydney, for the building of a line to connect Beverley and Albany. Under the terms of this agreement payment was to be made at the rate of 12,000 acres for every mile of completed road, and this concession was handed over to a syndicate of London capitalists who undertook the construction of the line. The lands selected in payment were situated within a belt of 40 miles, on each side of the line, but half the frontage to the railway was reserved by the Government. The line, which has a total length of 278 miles, was opened for traffic on the 1st July, 1889, and in January, 1897, it became the property of the Government, the purchase money amounting to £1,100,000.

Following upon the West Australian Land Company's agreement to construct the Great Southern Railway Line between Beverley and Albany, came another land-grant contract to connect the city of Perth with Geraldton, *viâ* Gingin, the Victoria Plains, and the Irwin and Greenough Flats. However, the work on this route was temporarily suspended, the original syndicate having become involved in financial embarrassments which necessitated a transfer of the operation of construction to other parties. Other lines were planned to tap the timber forests of the Darling Ranges from various points on the western coast, one connecting Rockingham with the Jarrahdale Company's Depôt, a second having its base at Bunbury, and a third terminating to the small shipping port of Lockville, near the Vasse.

During Sir William Robinson's second administration, strong remonstrances concerning the retention by the Governor and his Executive of the power of disbursing the public funds without reference to the people who were taxed to provide them, were addressed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, who promptly directed the introduction of a Bill for securing to the Legislature further control of the purse-strings. An Act was framed accordingly, under the provisions of which no unauthorised expenditure could take place (except in cases of emergency) without the approval of a Committee of Finance, acting for the House while its members were not in session. The result of this measure was immediately apparent. The people's representatives obtained an influence in the conduct of public business which they had never previously possessed, the Government becoming altogether dependent upon them for supplies, and therefore compelled the more closely to study their wishes, and to give them the constitutional position to which they were rightly entitled. But this measure of reform, sought for in the interests of the old Constitution, and with a view to prolonging its existence, was in itself a main factor in leading to the conclusion that Responsible Government must be obtained.

About the year 1885, during the administration of Governor Broome, the desire for Responsible Government may be said to have become a political aspiration among the residents of the towns and the more settled districts. For an entire decade preceding (from 1875 to 1885) an influential majority of the members of the Legislature had remained opposed to any change, though the country—apart from the Administration—continued to be divided in opinion. Those who opposed reform in the Constitution seemed justified of their convictions, as of late years the old form of Government appeared well-suited to the colony's requirements. Certainly, the appointments made to the Executive had not, in every instance, given the completest satisfaction; but the authorities of the Colonial Office had, in all other matters, almost entirely ceased to intervene in West Australian affairs. The Governor ruled the country with all but absolute power, it is true, nevertheless, he maintained most cordial relations with his Legislature. Indeed, without more than formal reference to the Home Authorities, decisions of the first importance were locally arrived at, works of a serious nature were undertaken upon, and various means taken for the development of the colony's resources by the aid of borrowed money. Legislation, too, was free from the control of the Colonial Office, and, so far as its general policy was concerned, Western Australia was to a great extent a self-governed colony. The upper and privileged classes, together with the Civil Service, were, as a rule, opposed to the granting of Responsible Government, but the population in the urban centres enthusiastically supported it. As might naturally have been expected, the reform party steadily gained in numbers and influence. Railway expansion and gold discoveries were knitting the people together, and attracting fresh settlers to the country.

In the year 1886 an Act (50 Vic., No. 10) was passed, increasing the number of members of the Legislative Council to twenty-six, nine being nominated, the northern portion of the Northern District being taken to form the new "Kimberley District." In this year also certain by-elections took place, and as a result the party of reform secured a small majority in the House—a majority which it was evident must go on steadily increasing, and would, in the event of a general election, become very strong, perhaps even overwhelmingly so. The Conservative party, therefore, had to consider what position they should take up: whether the absolute opposition to constitutional change should be persisted in now that the reformers had practically won the battle, or whether an approachment should be made to them. It was eventually decided no longer to oppose the popular wish, but to join with the moderates in endeavouring to obtain the best form of Constitution that experience could suggest. As a result of this decision, Mr. S. H. Parker, in the winter session of 1886, moved a series of resolutions in favour of Responsible Government, and these passed the House by a large majority, only one elected member voting against them.

While the agitation was in progress for free political institutions, the attention of Western Australians, and of the miners of the eastern colonies, was directed to the gold fields of the north. Hardman's reports had begun to attract attention, though he cannot be said to have been the original discoverer of the precious metal in the two Kimberleys, shortly before he began his geological researches, some wandering prospectors had found indications of the presence of gold in the country at the head waters of the Margaret and Ord Rivers. Nevertheless, Hardman's report was of great value, and he never led astray those who were careful to follow his directions. Soon after his return from his second expedition, prospecting was engaged in with some vigour; towards the end of 1885, specimens were brought into Derby from the vicinity of Mount Barrett by several fortunate gold-hunters; and this event led to the disastrous "rush" that took place in the following year. Mount Barrett was too far distant from a base of supplies to prove anything but the scene of hardship, misery, and failure. It was 300 miles distant from the Port of Derby, and 250 miles distant from Wyndham, newly opened in the Cambridge Gulf. No tracks existed, and a rainy season was certain to cut the diggers off from the coast. But men poured into Wyndham in their hundreds, on the road to Mount Barrett, and the Government cautioned the reckless adventurers in vain. Some of the new arrivals were old hands on gold-fields, and came to the "rush" fully equipped and adequately provisioned, but the greater number were without experience—clerks, storemen, citizens, and city loafers generally, unaccustomed to hardship, and altogether unsuspecting of the difficulties, the dangers and the privations they must encounter in such a latitude as that of Mount Barrett. Disappointment met them as soon as they arrived—the alluvial workings had not turned out as expected,

[illegible] been made, were soon [illegible] a certain proportion [illegible] gold hunters made [illegible] many were at the [illegible] to retreat, and the [illegible] Nothing but the [illegible] all sorts of excesses, [illegible] of the population [illegible] of gold diggers [illegible] of the quartz reefs [illegible] The purging of the [illegible] was not, however, [illegible] The army of the defeated beat a retreat [illegible] great distress was suffered from [illegible] lack of provisions, [illegible] disease, starvation, [illegible] furnished with only [illegible] precious metal; [illegible] the expectations [illegible] assays of parcels sent to [illegible] that in the two Kimberleys [illegible] the world had ever seen. The [illegible] in the roseate visions of the [illegible] by hastening the construction of a [illegible] Derby to the auriferous areas, and by adding to the [illegible] at the settlements in King Sound and [illegible] The [illegible] telegraphic communication was subsequently [illegible] Wyndham. Indications of gold began to be found all over [illegible] at the head waters of the De Grey River, in the Darling [illegible] to the Swan and Canning Rivers, at the Yulgan Hills, [illegible] at Paterwangy, near Champion Bay, at the Kendenup [illegible] and at various other localities, but for some time [illegible] Hall's Creek, and the fields reached from Derby and [illegible] in the two Kimberleys, were supposed to be the only payable [illegible] the Colony.

[illegible] of July, 1887, it was resolved, by an almost unanimous [illegible] Legislature, in affirmation of the principle of self government, [illegible] Excellency be requested to take the necessary steps eventually [illegible] it. Among the notable events of this year was a terrible [illegible] that swept over a great portion of the colony, causing great [illegible] to property, and (in the month of December) the discovery of [illegible] Yilgarn. The find was an accidental one, at a place called [illegible] and was confirmed by a subsequent discovery at Golden [illegible] in the same district. Southern Cross, one of the centres of the [illegible] gold field, was so named by the party who first prospected it, [illegible] they had been guided to the spot by night, while following the [illegible] so designated.

Affairs political were in the meantime trending towards the realization of the efforts made towards Responsible Government. In December, 1887, the Legislative Council was dissolved, and a general election took place in the month of January following, in order that the constituencies might have an opportunity of expressing their views upon the question of the new Constitution. When the Council re-assembled, the resolution favouring Responsible Government for the colony was again carried, this time without a single dissentient voice. The Legislature met in April, and a Constitution Bill, drafted by the Government, was at once brought forward, and, after amendment, was passed and forwarded to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Governor (Sir Frederick Napier Broome), Sir Thomas Cockburn-Campbell, and Mr. S. H. Parker being appointed by the Legislature to proceed to England to act as delegates on behalf of the colony when the Act came before the Imperial Parliament. These gentlemen experienced much difficulty in carrying the measure through its various stages, strong opposition having arisen in the centre of the Empire against the granting of Western Australia's desire for self-government. This opposition was mainly, if not altogether, the outcome of a misunderstanding relative to the control of the Crown lands of the colony. It was held by a considerable party in the mother country that such lands were the "heritage of the British people," and should be inalienably held by the central authorities for settlement by the surplus population of Great Britain and Ireland. So demonstrative was the opposition that it appeared for a time as if Responsible Government for West Australia was fated to be seriously jeopardised, and indefinitely postponed.

At the beginning of the year 1888, Perth was connected by telegraph with the far northern settlement of Derby, on King Sound; and in May of the year following, the cable connecting Banjoewangie, in Java, with Roebourne, in Western Australia (a little to the north of Gantheaume Bay), was laid. Another important gold discovery also distinguished the year 1889. This was the finding of the Pilbarra field, on the De Grey and Oakover Rivers, in the Northern District. The new field was proclaimed in the month of July, 1889, and by the end of the year had exported 11,170 oz. of gold, valued at £42,446. During the year Yilgarn had produced 1,859 oz., valued at £7,062, making with 464 oz. sent from Kimberley, a total export of 15,493 oz., valued at £58,867. From this date the auriferous character of Western Australia was established, the gold increased from year to year, new gold-fields were successively discovered and proclaimed, and a great accretion to the population of the colony was gained from the eastern parts of the Australian Continent. Among the most famous of the continuous finds were the gold fields known by the names of Ashburton, the Lyndhurst, the Murchison, the Dundas, the East Murchison, the East Coolgardie, Coolgardie, the Yalgoo, the West Pilbarra, the Mount Margaret, the North-east Coolgardie, the Broad Arrow, the Peak Hill, the Kanowna, and the Kalgoorlie. One of the most sensational finds

[illegible] held by Messrs. Bayley and [illegible] Reward. One day Bayl[illegible] appeared in the township of [illegible] ounces of gold and [illegible] precious metal, but sadly in[illegible] a wholesale exodus to wh[illegible] the richest fields in the colony.

[illegible] Administration terminate[illegible] after a rule of six years and nearly seve[illegible] leave to England, from [illegible] 1885, the colony was adm[illegible] and during a second abse[illegible] by the Hon. Sir [illegible] from the 21st December, 188[illegible] Frederick Napier Broome's [illegible] the appointment, for a third [illegible] Francis Robinson.

[illegible] behalf of Responsible Gov[illegible] The Bill providing fo[illegible] to a Select Committee, [illegible] for the purpose of taking [illegible] what the represent[illegible] consideration of the ad[illegible] Western Australians a free hand [illegible] was the Committee o[illegible] popular opposition to the [illegible] Imperial Parliament unenc[illegible] which the Legislature [illegible] recommendation was ma[illegible] Crown lands should be [illegible] proposed to create. Th[illegible] obtained for its col[illegible] broadmindedness of a maj[illegible] combined with the [illegible] assisted by the knowled[illegible] who, as it opportunely ha[illegible] Responsible Government [illegible] West Australian delegates [illegible] Colonies at a time [illegible] Cabinet, the Bill appe[illegible] the Agents General, in a body, [illegible] the House of Commo[illegible] away all final obstacles, [illegible] grant a Constitution to W[illegible] in the Lower British Cham[illegible] with no opposition from the [illegible] Assent on the 15th August following. The [illegible]

Constitution of Western Australia differs but little from those of the other Australasian Colonies. The Executive power is vested in the Governor, who is appointed by the Crown, and who acts under the advice of a Cabinet composed of five Responsible Ministers. The Executive Council consists of the Governor (who acts as President), the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Colonial Treasurer, the Commissioner of Crown Lands, and the Commissioner of Railways and Director of Public Works. Responsible Government was proclaimed in the colony on the 21st October, 1890, on which date the old Legislature was abolished. The new Parliament met on the 30th December following, with Sir John Forrest as Premier. The Forrest Ministry is still in office, but of its original members Sir John Forrest alone remains. Sir William Robinson continued as Governor until the 16th August, 1895 and was succeeded by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Gerard Smith, who arrived in the colony on the 23rd December. On the 22nd March, 1900, Sir Gerard Smith left for England after a period of office lasting about four years and three months, and on the following day the Chief Justice, Sir A. C. Onslow, took up the duties of Administrator of the Government.

For long the question of the loss of revenue, which would undoubtedly occur to the colony, appeared to impose an insurmountable barrier to the entry of West Australia as an original State in the Commonwealth of Australia, even with the special concessions made to the State in the Bill approved by the Convention. The dread of isolation, from which Western Australia had so long suffered, proved more powerful than the fear of pecuniary embarrassment, and the Parliament of the colony, at the invitation of Sir John Forrest, determined to submit the question of federation to the decision of the electors. The strength of the federal sentiment was made abundantly manifest in the result of the referendum—the vote in favour of union with the rest of Australia being carried by a majority of more than two to one.

TASMANIA.

TASMANIA was discovered by Abel Janszen Tasman on Novem
24th, 1642, and by him was named Van Diemen's Land, after
governor of the Dutch Possessions in the East Indies, who had fi
the expedition which Tasman commanded. The ceremony of hois
flag and taking possession of the country in the name of the Governm
of the Netherlands was actually performed, but the description of
wildness of the country, and of the fabulous giants by which Tasm
always believed it to be inhabited, deterred the Dutch from occupy
the island, and by the international principle of "non-user" it pa
from their hands. Some hundred and thirty years after Tasm
voyage the island was again visited this time by a French expediti
under Captain Du Fresne. In 1773, Captain Furneaux, of
Adventure,' one of the great Cook's squadron, anchored in St
Bay and later, in 1777, Captain Cook himself visited the same local
The famous Captain Bligh also touched at the island in 1788 the s
year that witnessed the foundation of the settlement at Port Jack
Again, in 1792, a French expedition under D'Entrecasteaux ente
Storm Bay, and surveyed portions of the coast. During the whol
this period it was believed that Van Diemen's Land was only
southward projection of the great Australian Continent, and, indeed
figured on the maps as such. Its insularity was proved by Lieuten
Flinders, who completed its circumnavigation in the sloop "Norfol
in 1798. He was accompanied on the expedition by Surgeon Bass, w
had previously discovered the strait bearing his name. In 1802
French expedition under Commodore Baudin visited the island, and
was partly the fear of French occupation that led to the foundatio
a British settlement in the new land.

In the month of September, 1803, Lieutenant Bowen was despatc
by Governor King in the "Lady Nelson" to establish a settlement
Risdon Cove, or Restdown, as it was sometimes called, which is situa
on the banks of the Derwent River, some 4 miles above the site
Hobart, but on the opposite side of the stream. Bowen had b
despatched previously—on the 13th June, 1802—in H.M.S. "Glatto
to the island in order to take possession of the place, and establish
Britannic Majesty's rights thereto. The penal establishment which
Imperial Government had established on the shores of Port Jackson
to its overflowing. About a thousand had been drafted away to Norf
Island, but the parent settlement was still somewhat crowded.
Governor General of New South Wales, therefore, cast his eyes towa

Van Diemen's Land as an outlet for the relief of the parent establishment. Besides, the French had to be forestalled, for though the island was included in Phillip's commission, and that of his successors, nevertheless, the very proof of its insularity created it a country separate from New South Wales, liable to lapse from British sovereignty unless actually occupied under authority of the British Crown. Bowen's founding party was a small one, but it formed the advance guard of a great convict immigration. When the muster was taken on the 27th September, 1803, the total population was only forty-nine. Of these, seven were women and three were children. The convicts numbered twenty-four and the soldiers twelve, but a small party of free settlers, with their wives and children, subsequently arrived. Shortly after the first landing, the settlement was removed from Risdon to Sullivan Cove, and spread slowly along the banks of the Derwent River, the latter name being used in the enumeration of the people on the muster sheets. In the month of February, 1804, the little colony received a considerable accession by the transference of Collins' expedition from Port Phillip to the Derwent River.

Collins' commission was of a roving character. He was instructed to proceed to Port Phillip, or to any part of the southern coast of New South Wales, or to the islands adjacent, and there establish his little colony. Collins sailed from England on the 24th April, 1803, in the 'Calcutta,' having on board 299 male convicts, 16 married women, a few settlers, and 50 men and petty officers of the Royal Marines. This vessel was accompanied by the "Ocean" as a store-ship. Collins had arrived at Port Phillip, but his reports of the country were so unfavourable that Lord Hobart, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, at once sent out instructions to break up the settlement and transfer the people under his charge to the Derwent River in Van Diemen's Land. Collins obeyed the orders of his chief with cheerful alacrity, and on the 27th February, 1804, left the disparaged harbour for the new field of his labours. The "Ocean," with the first instalment of the party, which numbered in all 402, anchored in the Derwent on the 30th of the same month, the second detachment arriving by the "Lady Nelson" on the 9th February. Collins landed at the place whereon the city of Hobart now stands, and there and then selected it as the site of his future capital.

Governor General King, consumed with anxiety to forestall the French in their designs upon Australasian territory, had given instructions to the officer commanding the "Lady Nelson" to sail round to Port Dalrymple, in the north of the island, after discharging his mission with Collins, and to report upon the Tamar River, and the surrounding country, as to their eligibility for the purposes of a military station. The officer did as he was directed, and reported the country as well suited for settlement. In consequence of this favourable account, an expedition was made at the close of the year 1804 to Port Dalrymple, the first landing being effected at Outer Cove, now called Georgetown;

but the station was shortly afterwards removed to the opposite side of the river, to the indentation known as the Western Arm, where it received the name of York Town. The latter site also did not prove suitable, and this settlement was soon abandoned for the North Esk, where, after some time, it changed its general designation of Port Dalrymple for the specific one of Launceston, a name derived from Governor King's birthplace in Cornwall. The new settlement was placed under the control of Lieutenant-Governor Paterson, and he landed in Van Diemen's Land in the month of October, 1804, with a small party of prisoners and soldiers. At the time when this expedition was despatched to Port Dalrymple, Governor King issued a "general order," in which he proclaimed the division of the island into two independent Governments, designated respectively the counties of Buckingham and Cornwall, the dividing line being the 42nd parallel of south latitude. Each of these Governments was subordinate to King in his capacity of Governor-in-Chief and Captain-General of New South Wales and its dependencies. The two counties still figure on the map of Tasmania, but greatly shorn of their original magnitude, as they have been subdivided into eighteen others. Between Launceston and Hobart there was for some time no communication, and even as late as 1816 the mail took seven days to cross from settlement to settlement.

In the year 1805 Van Diemen's Land received an accession of population from Norfolk Island, the New South Wales Government having determined to evacuate the latter place, and transfer the bulk of the people to the new colony on the Derwent River. New Norfolk, somewhat further up the stream than the old Risdon settlement, still recalls in its name the immigration of the Norfolk Island settlers to Van Diemen's Land. The new comers received liberal grants of land, but contributed very little to the industrial development of the country, which, for many years, remained dependent on the mother colony of New South Wales for its food supplies. When the failure of the crops occurred at the parent settlement, between the years 1807 and 1810, matters were brought to a painful crisis. The provisions which had been stored in the Government depot, under the immediate control of the Lieutenant-Governor, were all but consumed, so the convicts were given temporary liberty to enable them to procure food in the shape of the wild denizens of the bush, and it was only by the timely arrival of a cargo of wheat from India that the little colony was saved from a condition of total collapse.

The enfranchisement of the convicts was, however, attended by woful results. Very early in the experience of the settlement serious difficulties had arisen with the aborigines, as it was the custom to term them, though scientists consider that the natives of Van Diemen's Land were not an aboriginal race. On one occasion a party of blacks, about 50 strong, including women and children, were engaged in hunting near the Risdon depot, when they were set upon by some of the white settlers, who slaughtered a great number of them, one estimate enumerating the

killed at fifty. This horrible outrage of course inspired the natives with sentiments of hatred and revenge, and impelled them to acts of reprisal. These were further stimulated by the abominable treatment meted out to the blacks by the liberated convicts of the famine period during their kangaroo hunts. Collins did his utmost to put down "the murders and abominable cruelties practised upon the natives by the white settlers"; but the means at his command were inadequate for the purpose. Van Diemen's Land, unlike the colonies established on the Australian Continent, managed from the very first years of British occupation to create a native difficulty, which was ultimately to produce much trouble and annoyance, and to occasion a huge expenditure of Imperial funds in its effectual solution.

Lieutenant-Governor Collins died in Hobart Town on the 24th March, 1810, just after Governor Macquarie had taken up his official duties in the mother colony. The sub-government of the Island was administered, until the arrival of Lieutenant-Governor Davey, by Lieutenant Lord and Captain Murray, and afterwards by Lieutenant-Colonel Gilles.

A certain measure of prosperity had by this time been attained by the development of the first rude efforts at agriculture, and by the energetic establishment of the whale fisheries, Tasmania speedily becoming the centre of the latter industry in Australasian seas. Settlement was, however, greatly retarded by the lawless establishment of an organised system of plunder and rapine carried on by gangs of armed men or bushrangers, as they had begun to be termed; indeed, what of wild romance and gruesome picturesqueness there may be clinging to the early days of "Old Vandemonia" is due to the ruthless extinction of the native race, and the dark deeds of the escaped convicts and ticket-of-leave men, who carried on a war of brigandage against the property and the persons of the terrorised farmers and stock-owners. They slaughtered sheep and cattle, they burnt down hay and corn stacks, they looted granaries and robbed houses, and then they took to the woods—high impenetrable jungle of the bush and the fastnesses of the mountains, carrying nameless atrocities into the haunts of the unfortunate aborigines. The important part played by these desperadoes in the early history of the Island is still preserved in the ominous names given to some of the geographical features of the interior. Brady's Sugar-loaf and Brady's Lookout are appellations reminiscent of a notorious bandit.

The rule of Governor Davey was notoriously feeble, and the moral condition of the colony in his time was anything but healthy; nevertheless, he did his best for the natives, condemning the atrocities perpetrated upon them, but with little effect. The free people at this time consisted of inland settlers, liberated convicts, escaped prisoners, bushrangers, sealers and whalers, and runaway seamen. For most of these the law had no terrors, and they gave unbridled license to the

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at his command were far from sufficient to enable him to cope effectively with the difficulty, so that by the time he left office little, if any, progress had been made in this direction.

Lieutenant-Colonel Arthur was appointed to the administration of the colony in succession to Sorell in 1824, and entered upon his duties on the 15th May. From the outset his rule appears to have been extremely unpopular, though, under the conditions of settlement then existing in Van Diemen's Land, it would hardly have been possible for a Governor to have done his duty and achieved popularity. About eighteen months after his arrival in Van Diemen's Land, the colony was proclaimed an independent province, and the Imperial Parliament presented the inhabitants with a Constitution of the colonial type of the period, which provided for an Executive and a Legislative Council, with certain circumscribed functions, mainly advisory. The new system was felt by the Governor as a clog upon his government, and he made no pretensions that it was acceptable to him, nor did he in any way modify his methods of ruling. Governor Arthur had no idea of moderation. He dismissed a popular Attorney-General who opposed him, and adopted extreme measures towards the Press, the liberty of which he strained every nerve to destroy. These actions intensified his already sufficient unpopularity. To the best of his marked ability, however, he strove to promote the interests of religion and education in the colony, and while he directed the Government many churches were built, and many schools were established; the public finances were adjusted to expenditure in a satisfactory manner, and, after providing for the disbursement of some £50,000 per annum, he was able to carry forward a surplus. Governor Arthur also turned his attention to the Department of Justice, and for the better administration of the law he divided the Island into police districts, with a Stipendiary Magistrate for each district; yet his severity in the enforcement of the laws undoubtedly was the means of manufacturing criminals of the deepest dye. Many convicts who had been transported from England on trivial charges had their better natures crushed and were completely brutalised by the harsh treatment meted out to them for the smallest misdemeanours. A year after Governor Arthur's appointment to the administration of the Island, no fewer than a hundred armed convicts were at large throughout the country districts. The reign of terror, which had been such a distinguishingly infamous characteristic of the days of Governor Davey, was revived and re-established. When night fell every house that stood by itself in the bush or in the cultivated areas was strongly barred and bolted and barricaded, and the safety of the sleeping family was entrusted to one or two of the household, who watched throughout the hours of darkness with firelocks in readiness, their muzzles gleaming through the port-holes with which necessity had pierced the walls of the homestead. One desperado named Brady, whose Sugarloaf and Look-out have already been mentioned, and whose lawless deeds are still a tradition, at the head of a gang of armed

convicts, was at large throughout the country, ravaging and pillaging in all directions. On one occasion this bushranging captain, with a mounted band of outlaws, swept down on the North Coast and captured the town of Sorell, seizing the gaol, they locked the soldiers guarding the place in one of the cells, and liberated the whole of the prisoners. Matters now began to grow desperate. Authority in the Island was divided between Colonel Arthur and Captain Brady and other bush ranging magnates. The struggle was one of law against lawlessness, and constituted power did not always get the better of the conflict. Governor Arthur determined to make a strenuous effort to assert the supremacy of the law. He placed himself at the head of a strong force of military and settlers and hunted down the gangs of outlaws. No fewer than 103 persons suffered capital punishment during the years 1825 and 1826, and organised highway robbery once more ceased to be a reproach to the colony.

The distinguishing feature of Arthur's governorship was, however, the military campaign which he conducted against the aborigines. Governors Collins, Davey, and Sorell had done their utmost to protect the natives against the outrages and illtreatment of the free whites, but all their efforts to put an end to the frightful state of things that prevailed in this relation had proved in vain. On November 1st, 1828, Governor Arthur proclaimed martial law, and offered a reward of £5 for every adult and £2 for every child captured and brought to head quarters without suffering any injury. Search parties were at once got together and set forth on the quest. Many captures of aborigines were made by these parties, but, unfortunately, not without fatal conflicts. At this juncture came the gigantic fiasco of the whole enterprise. The scheme was Governor Arthur's own, and cost the Imperial Government the sum of £30,000. This master stroke of tactics was an attempt to imprison the natives in an ever-narrowing circle. To this end Governor Arthur ordered a military cordon to be drawn across the Island of Tasmania from east to west. Quite a large force was pressed into the work. There were 800 soldiers, the police of the country, upwards of 700 convict servants, and a number of civilians. It was confidently expected that this force was sufficient to drive the aborigines into Tasman's Peninsula simply by advancing against them. There must have been somewhere a hitch in the proceedings, for after the expenditure of the large sum mentioned, the campaign resulted in the capture of a man and a boy, the remainder of the natives having silently slipped through the lines.

During Arthur's term of office the Van Diemen's Land Company obtained its charter of incorporation from the Imperial Parliament, and received grants of land in various parts of the colony amounting to upwards of 400,000 acres, of which 150,000 were situated at Woolnorth, the extreme north west corner of the Island; 10,000 at Rottnest and Trefoil Islands; 10,000 at Middlesex Plains; 20,000 at Circular Head (now well known for its potato crops); 10,000 at

Hampshire Hills, 150,000 at Surrey Hills; and 20,000 at Emu Bay, besides areas in other different districts. For these concessions the Company was to pay an annual quit-rent of £468 16s., with the option of redemption at twenty years' purchase. During Arthur's rule, banks were established in Hobart Town and Launceston. In 1828 the first land sales in the Island took place, but so low were the prices obtained, that 70,000 acres enriched the Treasury by only £20,000. In the month of January, 1831, the system of issuing free grants of land was established. In the year 1835 the district of Port Phillip (now the colony of Victoria) was settled from Van Diemen's Land—practically from Launceston—a movement that reacted most beneficially upon the prosperity of the northern part of the Island. At the same time the development of the internal commerce and industry of the little colony was greatly advanced by the construction, through the medium of convict labour, of roads, bridges, wharves, and other public works. Instead of a fortnightly, there was, in 1835, a bi-weekly mail running between Hobart Town and Launceston, the period of transit having been reduced from seven days to nineteen hours. The penal settlement of Macquarie Harbour had also been given up, and the convicts removed to Tasman's Peninsula. There had also been considerable amelioration in the lot of the victims of the Transportation System, through the introduction of more humane methods.

The Government of Van Diemen's Land was administered by Colonel Arthur for over thirteen years. He assumed office on the 14th May, 1824, and retired on the 31st October, 1836. From the date of his accession to power in the Island until the 3rd December, 1825, he was merely the subordinate officer of the Governor of New South Wales. At the date last mentioned, the Governor-in-Chief, Lieutenant-General Ralph Darling, visited Van Diemen's Land and formally proclaimed its independence. On the 6th of the month Arthur resumed the administration of the colony. An Executive and a Legislative Council were called into existence, the latter being on the same model as that introduced into the other colonies at the earliest stages of their progress. One of the Members of the first Legislature in Van Diemen's Land in 1825 was Edward Curr, who formed the settlement at Circular Head for the Agricultural Company to which the Government of George IV had granted the great territorial concessions already alluded to.

From the date of Colonel Arthur's relinquishment of authority, October 30th, 1836, till January 5th, 1837, the colony was administered by Lieutenant-Colonel Snodgrass as Acting Lieutenant Governor. On the latter date last mentioned there arrived in the colony the new Lieutenant-Governor, Captain Sir John Franklin, R.N., K.H. Sir John Franklin remained in office till the 21st August, 1843, a period of six years and seven months.

Franklin had, happily, one less of the troubles that afflicted his predecessors. He was worried by no native difficulty. After Governor Arthur's failure to drive the aborigines into Tasman's Peninsula, a

humble bricklayer in Hobart Town, named George Augustus Robinson, by unaided effort, achieved all that force and authority had been powerless to perform. Animated by a splendid enthusiasm for the ill-used natives, he made a spontaneous offer to the Government to undertake the task of supervising the efforts made for their welfare, if the authorities would guarantee him a bare support. In response to this generous proposition he was specially appointed Protector of the black natives of Van Diemen's Land at a salary of £100 per annum. He thereupon set out on a series of journeys throughout the Island. Unarmed and unattended, he travelled among his aboriginal charges throughout the length and breadth of the colony, exhibiting a courage almost sublime in circumstances of extreme danger, and winning the love, the confidence, and the esteem of the most belligerent of the people whom he was authorised by the Government to safeguard. After travelling on foot some 4,000 miles over the wildest and roughest parts of Van Diemen's Land, and without shedding a single drop of native or European blood, he brought the timid natives, who had once held the colony in a state of permanent alarm, into a haven of peace and safety. Ultimately he managed to place on Flinders Island upwards of 200 aborigines. The native settlement at Flinders Island was formed in 1835. In 1847, only twelve years afterwards, the number had dwindled down to 44 persons. These survivors were eventually deported to Oyster Cove, on the main Island, but on the 3rd March, 1869, Guillaume Lanne, the last male of his race, died at Hobart Town, aged 34 years.

One of Franklin's first official acts was the giving of publicity to the proceedings of the Legislative Council. He also endeavoured to bring about agreeable relations between the various parties in the community by his personal influence, his tact, his geniality, and his hearty and conciliatory manners. In all his efforts to ameliorate the social conditions of the colony he was ably seconded by his zealous and talented wife. Sir John Franklin's term of office expired on the 21st August, 1843, and he returned to England. He was immediately succeeded by Sir John Eardley-Wilmot, whose administration forms one of the most unfortunate phases in the annals of the colony. In 1845 there were some two thousand convicts in the settlement at Norfolk Island, controlled by Superintendent John Price. This man's administration of affairs was particularly cruel and merciless, and instead of checking the degraded instincts of his charges, served to aggravate them to fresh deeds of fiendish depravity. The settlement was a pandemonium, and matters went from bad to worse, till at last rumours reached the ears of the Home Authorities. Governor Eardley-Wilmot thereupon received instructions to break up the penitentiary at Norfolk Island, and transfer the establishment to Port Arthur. Although this was carried into effect, the Governor still permitted Commandant Price to retain his office of superintendent. It was not long before Port Arthur earned for itself a name as sinister as that ever

possessed by Norfolk Island, or Macquarie Harbour. The horrors of the 'system,' as practised there, were so awful that many of the convicts gaily welcomed execution as a relief from them. At an inquiry before a Select Committee it was elicited that in some instances prisoners murdered their comrades with no other motive than to earn a respite by death from their hideous surroundings.

For some little time a feeling had been growing in the colony in favour of the abolition of the "system" and the transfer of the Norfolk Island "irreclaimables" to Van Diemen's Land served still further to exacerbate it. There were, of course, as in other countries used as penal settlements, great financial difficulties in the way of reform. The expenditure by the Imperial Government on the maintenance of the penitential establishments was something like £300,000 per annum, but the Secretary of State for the Colonies was resolved upon cutting down this sum, and making the penal stations self supporting as far as it could possibly be managed. In pursuance of this new policy a stoppage was made in the building of roads, wharfs, and other public works such as had hitherto been carried on at Imperial expense; and the convict labour thus liberated was applied to the clearing of land and the cultivation of crops. The produce thus raised was consumed by the prisoners themselves, and if a surplus remained over it was sold in the open market, to the financial injury of the farmers, who were not only deprived of their ordinary avenues of trade, but were subjected also to an unfair and ruinous competition. This course of action on the part of the Imperial Authorities gave a severe blow to the agricultural industry, which necessarily reacted on the tradespeople of the colony. As another consequence, the revenue from the sale of Crown lands fell off almost to nothing, and the colony drifted deeper and deeper into debt, and fresh sources of revenue from taxation had consequently to be found.

At that time the Legislative Council was in part composed of Nominee Members, and six of them—known to history as the "Patriotic Six"—resigned their seats rather than acquiesce in the imposition of fresh burdens upon the people under an irresponsible system of government, and as an emphatic protest against the unconstitutional conduct of the Governor himself in borrowing money from the banks, and spending it without the authorisation of the Legislature. This action on the part of the so-called "Patriotic Six" took place in the month of October, 1845, and in the following year Sir John Eardley-Wilmot received a message from the Hon. W. E. Gladstone, recalling him from the Government of Van Diemen's Land. This course was resorted to the unfortunate gentleman to have been taken, "not on account of any errors committed by the Governor in his official capacity, but because rumours reflecting upon his moral character had reached the Colonial Office." Mr Gladstone, moreover, augmented the bitterness of this utterance by refusing to give Sir John the names of his accusers, and thus to enable him to clear himself of the charges laid

to his account. It is, however, significant, that persons holding high positions in the Island, such as the Bishop, the Chief Justice, and others in daily intercourse with His Excellency, maintained with warmth and loyalty that the Governor had been blackly maligned without the shadow of a foundation for the aspersions cast upon his character. Sir John Eardley-Wilmot died of a broken heart only eight days after the landing of his successor. At his funeral a notable demonstration was made by the numbers who attended it, and by whom he was held personally in great esteem, respect, and friendship.

Sir John Eardley Wilmot gave up his office on the 13th October, 1846, and died on the 3rd February, 1847. From the 14th October, 1846, to the 25th January, 1847, the colony was administered, pending the arrival of the next Lieutenant Governor, by C. J. Latrobe, as Administrator. Mr Latrobe had already filled a vice-regal position in Victoria. Sir William Thomas Denison, afterwards Governor-General of New South Wales, took over the administration of the colony on the 26th January, 1847, and relinquished it on the 8th January, 1855.

Governor Denison's administration marks a turning point in the history of the Colony. One of his first acts after assuming office was the restoration of their seats in the Legislature to the "Patriotic Six," who had resigned their office from conscientious motives, as already narrated. This step received the cordial approbation of Earl Grey, who was then Secretary of State for the Colonies. In other directions, however, the Governor did not acquit himself so well. When Earl Grey decreed his advice concerning the advisability of granting Responsible Government, the new Governor expressed himself in no unmeasured terms against the proposal. Again, when the Colonial Office authorities requested his views with reference to the transportation question, Sir William Denison strongly urged that the discontinuance of the 'system' was against the best interests of the young colony. The Governor, indeed, made a bid for the support of a very influential party. This was composed of those flock-masters and land-holders, who considered that cheap labour, together with a large annual outlay in the form of Imperial funds, totally outbalanced all the evils and horrors of transportation. The Governor lent all the weight of his position and official influence to the convict labour people, and did everything in his power to put their views prominently before the Imperial authorities; nay, more, he went even so far as to represent the wishes of this pro-convict party as those paramount in the Island. Fortunately, however, at that particular juncture in affairs, the Colonial Office did not show much heed to the expressions of opinion of some of its vice-regal advisers in the Australias; and it even seemed probable at one time that the system would be abolished by the Imperial authorities upon their own initiative. However, these kindly counsels were not of long duration, and the sanguine expectations of the abolitionists were cruelly disappointed by the sudden appearance in the Derwent River, on the

12th November, 1848, of the transport convict ship "Ratcliffe," with 248 prisoners. The people of Hobart Town authorised their leading citizens to wait upon Governor Denison and strongly protest against the landing of any more of the unfortunate wretches in the ports of the colony. The objection was eloquent, but ineffectual. In the course of the year 1849 no fewer than twenty convict transports sailed into the Derwent estuary, bringing with them 1,860 prisoners to add to the population of the Island.

In the meanwhile the Imperial authorities had made attempts to land convicts at various Colonial ports, viz., at Cape Town, at Sydney, and at Melbourne. In each instance the inhabitants of these cities had successfully resisted the threatened influx of this undesirable element; hence there appeared the probability that "Vandemonia"—as it was derisively called—would become the sole receptacle of the accumulated moral garbage of the people of the British Isles. But in this emergency the Rev. John West, afterwards editor of the *Sydney Morning Herald*, arose as the champion of the abolitionist party. To him was due in great measure the organisation of the Anti Transportation League, and his efforts secured the hearty co-operation of the other Australasian colonies. The Governor bitterly opposed the spirit of the league, and actually went so far as to affirm that the continuance of the "system" was both necessary and desirable; but public opinion, not only in Australia, but also in Great Britain itself, had come to the decision that transportation must be abolished, and abolished at once.

Van Diemen's Land shared in the Act passed by the Imperial Parliament in 1854 for the better government of the Australian Colonies. Among its provisions was one for the establishment of a Legislative Council in the Island. This body was to consist of eight Members, nominated by the Governor for the time being, and sixteen to be elected by the people—in all, twenty-four Members; but Sir William Denison was a resolute and consistent antagonist of any measure of Responsible Government, and one of his last acts as the ruler of the colony was one which no Responsible Government would have sanctioned. Prior to bringing into operation the provisions of the Act passed by the Imperial Parliament for the better government of the Australian Colonies, the Governor took upon himself the responsibility of proclaiming certain land regulations, which had the effect of throwing very large areas of valuable territory into the hands of a very small number of lessees. Sir William Denison defended his action by asserting that it was his intention thereby to promote agricultural settlement in combination with pastoral enterprise. His regulations had quite a contrary tendency, and had the effect of preventing enterprise of any kind. The small farmer, the true developer of virgin land, was effectually debarred from access to the land, and internal expansion and progress was seriously retarded. As the consequence of Denison's land policy, an emigration of young men began, and continued steadily for years; while the domestics of the

neighbouring colonies were also recruited from the ranks of the young women born in the Island. When Mount Bischoff was discovered, there were actually no local diggers to work it, the mines being exploited, with very few exceptions, by Victorian labour imported from Clunes, Creswick, Mount Blackwood, and the Blue Mountain Gold fields.

The new Legislative Council, established under the Imperial Act passed in 1850, did not assemble for the despatch of business until the 1st January, 1852. One of its first acts was the passing of a resolution condemning the continuance of the system of convict transportation. The passing of this resolution was deeply resented by Sir William Denison, and he denounced it in no unmeasured terms. Nevertheless, the "Patriots," confident of the moral support of the greater number of the colonists, resolved to take their grievance before Royalty itself, and thereupon addressed a memorial to the Queen, praying her to abrogate the Order in Council authorising transportation to Van Diemen's Land. The Governor forwarded the document, but at the same time advised the Home authorities to the effect that compliance with the request of the petitioners would be against the best interests of the colony, and would in no way improve the moral condition of its people. The Council then met and carried a vote of want of confidence in the Governor. This vote was embodied in a second petition to the Throne, and the humiliating task of forwarding it devolved upon His Excellency. In spite of this, however, Sir William persisted in sending despatches to England belittling the influence and character of the members of the Council. As a matter of fact, the Governor entirely misconceived the strength of the Anti-Transportation movement, and the earnestness of popular sentiment that gave it birth. But, as has been previously remarked, the British authorities were not always in accord with the views of the Governor on matters of colonial policy, and the Duke of Newcastle informed the Council that transportation to Van Diemen's Land had been definitely abolished. The despatch conveying this gratifying intelligence was officially made known through the columns of the *Hobart Town Gazette* of May, 1853.

Meanwhile the discovery of payable gold in New South Wales, in 1851, followed by similar finds in Victoria, caused a wild rush from all parts of Australasia, and indeed of the world, to the gold-bearing localities. The people of Van Diemen's Land were infected by the gold-fever, and an exodus set out to the scenes of the "rushes" which threatened almost to depopulate the Island. Amongst those who quitted Tasmania were many of its convict population. In the year 1842 the total population was recorded as 40,767. Under the incessant drain to the gold-fields of Victoria it fell to 22,261. Those who remained in the Island, however, reaped a rich harvest from their unadventurousness. In Victoria, consequent upon the great rush of population to the gold fields of that colony, in combination with the enormous finds of the precious metal, a remarkable inflation of

press had taken place. This necessarily reacted on the marketable value of every description of produce raised in the island colony. Only limited supplies of food and merchandise were at first available, and the demand was insistent and clamorous. Every kind of grain, and meat, flour, vegetables, hay and fodder of all sorts, timber, building materials, and the various other necessities of civilised life, commanded prices that sounded bewilderingly fabulous to ears attuned to the narrow needs of a primitive agricultural community. Land increased greatly in value, and the producers who stayed behind prospered exceedingly. The imports and exports of the colony experienced a noteworthy expansion, as did also the public revenue. In 1852 the treasury was able to show a surplus of £62,000 over expenditure, while the tonnage of shipping engaged in the external commerce of the island was more than double that of a decade before. In 1853 the value of the colony's imports was upwards of £2,250,000, or some £100 *per capita* of the entire population, and this sum was nearly balanced by the value of the exports.

Affairs were now in such a prosperous condition that the time seemed peculiarly appropriate for the celebration of a jubilee festival. The occasion was commemorative of a double half-century event—the foundation of the colony, and the cessation of transportation to its shores. The day selected for the celebration was August 10th, 1853, and was marked, not only by public festivities, but by religious services in the various churches. To mark a turning-point in the history of the colony, and to break off in a manner all associations with a dark and dishonoured past, the colonists were desirous of changing the name of their Island from Van Diemen's Land to Tasmania, in honor of the intrepid Dutch discoverer who first visited its shores; and this change of nomenclature was shortly afterwards legalised by a vote of the legislature. Nevertheless, although the Island was thus dissevered from a name that was redolent of infamy, the evil consequences of the old penal system yet remained. The convict element had been greatly lessened by immigration to Australia, but it was still sufficiently strong to be a standing menace to a peaceful, orderly, law-abiding, and industrious population. When the more hardened of the criminals escaped from confinement, and deliberately embraced a career of rapine and violence in the bush, they hesitated at the commission of no atrocity in the prosecution of their nefarious designs; indeed, the bushrangers of Tasmania were no whit better than their predecessors in the old penal days of "Vandemonia. Their vile deeds, too, were not only practised in Tasmania: but occasionally escaped convicts crossed over Bass Straits in stolen boats, and continued their lawless career on the diggings and elsewhere on the mainland.

On the 8th January, 1855, Sir William Thomas Denison was succeeded by Sir Henry Edward Fox Young, who came to the Island fresh from the Governorship of South Australia, where he had served a successful term of office extending over six years. On the 17th

January of the same year the Lieutenant-Governorships of Victoria, South Australia, and Tasmania became Governorships. The last mentioned colony became officially so named by legislative enactment in the year 1854. From the foundation of the Island as a British colony under Colonel David Collins, in 1804, to the departure of Sir William Denison, the highest authority in the country bore the official title of Lieutenant-Governor, while the Governor of New South Wales retained the title of Governor-in Chief. Van Diemen's Land was, however, independent of the mother colony from the date of the establishment of a separate Government in 1825-6; the difference in the rank of the two officials being rather a matter of precedence than connection in any governmental sense, though the Governor in-Chief was the authority to whom the Lieutenant-Governor was expected to appeal in times of difficulty or perplexity. Sir H. E. F. Young was the first Governor-in Chief of the Colony of Tasmania, and Sir William Denison was the last Lieutenant-Governor of Van Diemen's Land. Under the rule of the latter, the colony had secured the cessation of transportation; had had bestowed upon it by the Imperial Parliament a larger measure of constitutional self-government; had celebrated its first fifty years of history as a British settlement; and had changed its name in the hopes of a future brighter and better than its past. With the advent of the new ruler, Tasmania may be regarded as in truth definitely finishing with the old order of things, and opening the second volume of its history. Sir H. E. F. Young guided the course of the colony from the 8th January, 1855, to the 10th December, 1861, a period of nearly seven years.

It was a happy and prosperous juncture at which the new Governor took up his duties. The revenue was in a satisfactory condition; discoveries of coal had been made in the Island; the timber getters were busy throughout the colony procuring slabs and shingles and other building materials, and props for the miners in satisfaction of the large Victorian demands; all interests seemed to be on the up grade, and there were considerable arrivals of immigrants from Great Britain and Ireland. As a sign of the prosperity of the colony may be mentioned the raising and transmission to London of the sum of £25,000, the donation from the Tasmanians to the fund raised for the relief of the widows and orphans of the soldiers who had fallen in the Crimean War.

A few months after Governor Young's arrival, Tasmania received a full measure of Responsible Government. By an Act of the Imperial Parliament, which received the Royal Assent on the 1st May, 1855, a Constitution was bestowed upon the colony. This provided for the creation of two Houses, both of them elective—namely, a Legislative Council of fifteen members, and an Assembly of thirty members. The functions of the new Parliament included the imposition of taxation, the expenditure of revenue, the complete control of Crown lands, and the absolute management of public business by a responsible ministry

answerable to the people through their representatives. Under the new Constitution the Governor became, of course, merely the representative of Majesty. The Legislative Council passed an Electoral Act to give due effect to the provisions of the Imperial Statute conferring the Constitution, and was then relieved of its restricted functions by the Governor in a farewell address.

In the month of September, 1856, the first general election took place in the Island, and the first Responsible Government of Tasmania was formed. The Cabinet was composed of five members holding office and one without a portfolio. The first Premier was Mr. W. T. N. Champ, and his colleagues were Messrs. T. D Chapman, Treasurer; F Smith, Attorney-General, J. W. Rogers, Solicitor General: H F Ames, Minister for Lands and Works, and W. E. Nairn, without portfolio. Justice Howe was elected President of the Legislative Council, and Captain Fenton Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

Suddenly, however, the prosperity of the colony, hitherto so gratifying, declined, and the new Parliament was called upon, almost at the outset of its career, to meet serious financial difficulties. The strangeness of the situation, and the total inexperience of the freshly-elected members, precipitated a crisis, and the two Houses found themselves engaged in an undignifving squabble over the imposition of taxation. The Legislative Assembly, like that of the colony of Victoria at a later date, claimed the right to impose and collect Customs duties by a mere resolution of a majority of its own members, without reference to the Upper Chamber. This led, after a tenure of office lasting only four months, to the resignation of the first ministry. The second Responsible Government had even a shorter command of the Treasury Benches, and had to succumb after being in power for only eight weeks. but after a reasonable period for experiment—a stage all young Legislatures have to pass through—the new Parliament got genuinely to work, and proceeded to pass measures for the promotion of higher education; for the incorporation of municipalities in country districts; for the settlement of the people upon the land; and for the establishment of telegraphic communication between the northern and southern parts of the Island.

Sir Henry Edward Fox Young's term as Governor-in-Chief of Tasmania ended on the 10th December, 1861, and Colonel Thomas Gore Brown, C B., entered on the duties of his office on the day following as Administrator. This position he continued to hold until the 17th June, 1862, when he became Governor-in-Chief, and, as such, ruled the colony until the 30th December, 1868, his total tenure of office lasting a trifle over seven years.

During the years 1862 and 1863, though much was done by way of developing the interior of the colony by the making of roads and the construction of bridges and tramways, and by other methods for bringing the outlying districts into communication with the market centres, questions of finance chiefly occupied legislative consideration. The

press and the public showed also an unusual interest in the discussions that arose, for they concerned, in an emphatic manner, the future welfare of the country, particularly as regards the settlement of the land and the incidence of taxation. The Treasurer of an Administration formed in the year 1863 was Mr. Charles Meredith, who submitted to Parliament a financial scheme for the abolition of all Customs duties (excepting those imposed upon fermented and spirituous liquor and upon tobacco), the freedom of shipping from all harbour dues and wharfage rates, and the creation of revenue by the imposition of an income and property tax of five and one-half per cent. Mr. Meredith's scheme was doomed from the first, owing to the opposition of the landed interest. Had it been carried into effect, its supporters claim that it would have transformed Hobart Town into a maritime *entrepôt* "as populous and prosperous as the towns in the Middle Ages," and have raised Tasmania into a position of premier importance, and subsequent writers declare that it would have averted the undeniable condition of stagnation that for long years brooded over the island, and which undoubtedly sprang from the locking-up of the country in huge and unused tracts of magnificent territory. Whatever might have been the result, the proposal was not destined to become law, for the Treasurer's scheme was negatived by the Legislative Assembly, and was not again proposed.

In 1865 a most important and valuable measure was placed upon the Statute Book. This was an enactment framed in the spirit and on the lines of the well-known Torrens Act of South Australia, for facilitating the release and transfer of real estate, and making transactions regarding land almost as simple as those connected with portable commodities. In 1867 an Act was passed which had for its object the re-population of the island. Year after year, numbers of young, hardy, and energetic men left the colony, to push their fortunes in the more favoured provinces of the Australian continent. These were the very men whom Tasmania could least afford to spare. To combat this fatal drain upon the population, an Act was passed, under the provisions of which heads of families who paid their own passage from Europe were entitled to receive land orders of the value of £18 for each person over fifteen years of age, and of £9 for each child of more than one and less than fifteen. However, through the great distance of the colony from the old-world centres of population, the cost of the passage out, and the long period of time occupied in making it (as compared with the short and cheap transit to Canada and the United States, together with the liberal inducements held out to immigrants by those countries), little of value in the way of settlement was achieved by this kind of legislation. At about the same time the Government made a bid for settlers of a different stamp. An area of territory, 50,000 acres in extent, was reserved in the county of Devon, for occupation, under certain conditions, by retired Indian officers and their families. Many old warriors accepted the invitation to settle in the colony, but this descrip-

tion of aristocratic and fanciful colonisation did little to develop the genuine resources of the country, which continued to suffer from the drain upon its youth, and the lack of suitable immigrants to replace the lost population.

In 1868 H.R.H. Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, visited the young colony, and the occasion was marked by great demonstrations of loyalty.

Colonel Gore Brown gave up the duties of his office on December 30th 1868, and from the date of his retirement till the 15th January, 1869, the Government was administered by Lieutenant-Colonel W. C. Fraser. On the date just mentioned the Administrator was relieved by Charles Du Cane, a son-in-law of the celebrated lawyer and orator, Lord Lyndhurst. During Mr. Du Cane's rule a submarine cable was laid across Bass Strait, and messages to the colonies of the mainland were first despatched by it on the 1st May, 1869. A beginning was also made with the railway system of the colony, and the Western Line from Launceston to Perth, Longford, Westbury, Deloraine, and Formby was under active construction. This route was projected as far back as 1862, and the first sod had been turned by the Duke of Edinburgh in 1868.

With the granting of Responsible Government much of the vehemence and picturesqueness of the "Old Colonial Days" disappeared, happily for the welfare of the island, never to return. Deeds of blood and violence gradually became less and less frequent, and the colony receded into a condition of calmness approaching stagnation—a quiescence in which legislation also shared.

In 1870 the Imperial Authorities withdrew the military forces from the various colonies, and for some time there was an outburst of enthusiasm directed towards the enlistment and drilling of volunteers. The census of Tasmania for this year (1870) showed that the population of the island was such as to require a re-distribution of seats, and the Constitution Act was amended to the extent of slightly increasing the number of members, and lowering the franchise for both Chambers, so as to restore the qualification to many persons who had lost it by the mere depreciation that had taken place in the value of their freehold or leasehold property. In 1870 also a contract was signed for the construction of a main line of railway from Launceston to Hobart Town. In 1871 the Governor opened the Western Line to traffic between Launceston and Deloraine, and communication between the latter and the sea was made almost complete by the laying down of a tramway from Kimberley to Latrobe, at the estuary of the River Mersey. These railways were, however, a source of considerable trouble and annoyance to those who initiated them, and those who provided the funds for their construction. At the time when the Launceston to Deloraine line was being built, that part of the island through which it passed was practically virgin country, in which, although there were a number of small holdings, the great bulk of the land was held in large blocks. The land-owners were anxious for a

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Launceston had their windows smashed in, their doors battered
tenements, and their fences torn down by the infuriated owners of

deported chattels. In the country districts the efforts of the police were simply laughed to scorn by men who had not feared to encounter and defeat armed desperadoes. In the end the Government saw that their position was untenable, and the enforcement of the law inexpedient. In the following year an Act was passed which absolved the land-owners of the district from the obligation of raising a special rate to be used for railway purposes. Thus ended a peculiarly painful position, created by the unwise action of a legislative body, for however proper it might have been to impose local taxation to meet the deficiency of earnings on the Deloraine railway, the conditions became entirely altered when the deficiency of other railways became a charge upon the general taxpayer.

In the year 1872 discoveries of gold were made both in quartz reefs and in alluvial deposits at Brandy Creek (afterwards called Beaconsfield), at Lefroy, and at other places which have since become well known as important gold fields. Silver and tin were found in abundance, and Mount Bischoff (discovered in 1872 by James Smith) has the proud preeminence of being considered the richest tin-mine in the world.

Governor Du Cane left the colony on the 28th November, 1874. Until the arrival of Governor Weld on the 13th January, 1875, the Government was successfully administered by Sir Valentine Fleming and Sir Francis Smith.

The next Governor, Mr. F. A. Weld, had received a long training in colonial politics in New Zealand, and had served a successful governorship in Western Australia. With his advent to office in Tasmania he found that changes of Ministry were of almost annual occurrence, that party politics ran high, and that the best interests of the colony were neglected in the scramble for the Treasury benches. A staunch believer in a strong public works policy, the Governor set himself to work to convert the Government of the day to his progressive views, and had the satisfaction, at the end of the year 1877, of obtaining the assent of both Houses to a Bill appropriating the sum of £140,000 to the formation and construction of roads, bridges, wharfs, and telegraph lines in favour of neglected districts. A succeeding Administration, with Mr. Dobson as Premier and Treasurer, managed to effect a reorganization of the colony's finances, and by the imposition of a tax on real and personal property and the dividends derived from the operations of public companies, an excise duty of 3d a gallon on beer, and a revision of the customs tariff, brought about an equality between revenue and expenditure.

In the year 1876 the railway line connecting the northern and southern capitals was opened to traffic. On the 8th May of the same year died Truganini, a female aboriginal, the last representative of the Tasmanian race.

During Governor Weld's term of office many important mineral discoveries were made. Amongst these was the famous auriferous quartz reef discovered by William Dalby in 1877, and now worked by the Tasmanian Gold-mining Company.

Governor Weld was called away to the Governorship of the Straits Settlements in the month of May, 1880, and the colony was temporarily administered by the Chief Justice, Sir Francis Smith. He was relieved in the month of October following by Sir J. H. Lefroy, who remained in the colony until the month of December, 1881. With the exception of a sharp conflict between the two Houses of the Legislature over questions of taxation in 1882, there is little left to record of importance. Sir J. H. Lefroy's term of administration ceased on the [illegible] December, 1881, and on the following day Major Sir George [illegible] was sworn in as Governor, and continued in [illegible] 1886.

During the period extending from 1882 to 1889 valuable discoveries [illegible] in the western portion of the island [illegible] Mount Zeehan in 1885, gold and copper at [illegible] and silver and lead at Heazlewood River in [illegible] by considerable activity in railway [illegible] a law was passed which had the effect of [illegible] franchise. The number of members of both [illegible] was increased from 16 to 18 in the Legislative [illegible] to 36 in the Assembly. At the same time the [illegible] Districts were re-arranged so as to give [illegible] representation in accordance with the distribution of [illegible]

[illegible] Strahan retired from office on the 28th October, 1886, [illegible] England, in November, of the Chief Justice, Sir [illegible] the Government of the colony was administered by [illegible] The Chief Justice continued the administration till the [illegible] Strahan's successor, Sir Robert Hamilton, who [illegible] on the 11th March, 1887.

[illegible] satisfactory relations which had so long existed between the [illegible] and the Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company were [illegible] in 1890 by Government purchase of the line for a sum [illegible], payable in 3½ per cent. inscribed stock. The year [illegible] witnessed the foundation of the Tasmanian University. [illegible] was thought that the interests of higher education would [illegible] satisfactorily promoted by a local University, the Council [illegible] was abolished, and in lieu of the Tasmanian scholar[illegible] Parliament granted an annual sum to the funds of the new [illegible]

Sir Robert Hamilton's term of office expired in October, 1892, and he was succeeded by Viscount Gormanston, who arrived in Hobart in [illegible] year. Since 1890 the colony has made excellent progress as the following pages show. Much of this progress has been due to the [illegible] development of mining on the west coast, where a population of [illegible] has settled between Strahan and Dundas, all maintained by the Mount Lyell and Zeehan mines.

In the following table will be found a list of the successive Ministries which have held office since the inauguration of Responsible Government in Tasmania, together with the dates of their appointment and retirement.

No. of Ministry	Name.	Date of Appointment.	Date of Retirement.	Duration. Months	Days.
1	Champ	1 Nov., 1856	26 Feb., 1857	3	25
2	Gregson	26 Feb., 1857	25 April, 1857	1	30
3	Weston	25 April, 1857	12 May, 1857	0	17
4	Smith	12 May, 1857	1 Nov., 1860	41	20
5	Weston	1 Nov., 1860	2 Aug., 1861	9	1
6	Chapman	2 Aug., 1861	20 Jan., 1863	17	18
7	Whyte	20 Jan., 1863	24 Nov., 1866	46	4
8	Dry	24 Nov., 1866	4 Aug., 1869	32	21
9	Wilson	4 Aug., 1869	4 Nov., 1872	39	0
10	Innes	4 Nov., 1872	4 Aug., 1873	9	0
11	Kennerley	4 Aug., 1873	20 July, 1876	35	16
12	Reibey	20 July, 1876	9 Aug., 1877	12	10
13	Fysh	9 Aug., 1877	20 Dec., 1878	16	11
14	Crowther	20 Dec., 1878	29 Oct., 1879	10	9
15	Giblin	30 Oct., 1879	15 Aug., 1884	57	16
16	Douglas	15 Aug., 1884	30 Mar., 1887	31	15
17	Fysh	30 Mar., 1887	17 Aug., 1892	64	18
18	Dobson	17 Aug., 1892	14 April, 1894	20	28
19	Braddon	14 April, 1894	12 Oct., 1899	65	28
20	Lewis	12 Oct., 1899	. .	.	...

NEW ZEALAND.

[illegible] is "Ao tea-roa" (the long white [illegible] "Te ika-a-Maui" (the fish of [illegible] "Te-wai-pounamu" (the place of the [illegible] "Rakiura."

[illegible] the Maoris of New [illegible] to the white population [illegible] Murderer's Bay to comparatively modern [illegible] to European colonisation. He [illegible] his own with a courage, [illegible] exerted the admiration, and [illegible] white invader. Though not [illegible] identified with the history of the [illegible] that it is convenient to con[illegible] earliest advent of the European [illegible]

[illegible] the Maori race. Many [illegible] the favourite one appears [illegible] island of the Samoan [illegible] the place of their exodus [illegible] Hawaiki left the island after [illegible] and returned thence to [illegible] all he had seen in his [illegible] new country that he had [illegible] either Kupe or Ngahue, but [illegible] concur in making him the [illegible] his race in its present home. [illegible] or Murderer's Bay as being [illegible] country was annexed, some [illegible] forgotten how to build them. It is [illegible] surveyed safely over the thousands [illegible] New Zealand from the tropical [illegible] these typical vessels of the South Sea [illegible] in colour, handsome of feature, and [illegible] who have spread throughout the [illegible] Rarotonga, and who have in some of the [illegible] with that of inferior Melanesian people [illegible] authority states that ethnological investigation [illegible] the fact that prior to their occupation of the islands in

the Pacific referred to in Maori tradition, the race originally dwelt on some mainland—probably on the plains and foothills of the Himalaya Mountains of India.

When Cook landed he found the islands apparently crowded by a dense population. This appearance was, however, misleading, and mainly arose from the tendency of the Maoris to cluster along the coast line and at the mouths of rivers. It has since been computed that the total number of Maoris at that time could not have been more than 150,000, which lessened to 80,000 by 1840, and has now further shrunk to considerably less than half that number. Except on the shores of Cook's Straits, they only planted a few scattered outposts in the South Island. Yet that was the larger island of the two. It is also the colder, and therein lies the chief secret of the check to the Maori increase. They were a tropical race transplanted into a temperate climate. They showed much the same tendency to cling to the North Island as the negroes in North America to herd in the Gulf States.

Respecting their antiquity as an important race from a Polynesian centre, it is noteworthy that the names of most of their canoes are still remembered, and each tribe agrees in its account of the doings of the people of the principal canoes after their arrival in New Zealand; and from these traditional accounts the descent of numerous tribes has been traced. Calculations, based on the genealogical staves kept by the "tohungas," or priests, and on the well-authenticated traditions of the people, indicate that about twenty-one generations have passed since the immigration, which may, therefore, be assumed to have taken place about 525 years ago. The position of the legendary Hawaiki is unknown, but many places in the South Seas have been thus named in memory of the mother land. The Registrar-General of New Zealand says that the Maoris speak a very pure dialect of the Polynesian language, the common tongue, with more or less variation, in all the Pacific Islands, and that Captain Cook, when he first visited New Zealand, availed himself of the services of a native of Tahiti, whose speech was easily understood by the Maoris, and who thereby obtained from them much of their traditional history. Cannibalism existed in New Zealand from the earliest periods known to Europeans, and sailors belonging to the expeditions of Tasman, Cook, and others met their fate in this way. The custom of eating the bodies of enemies killed in war obtained up to a very late period. The practice of tattooing was general in the early days of European colonisation, but it is now rapidly dying out among the younger generation of Maoris.

Tasman had been sent out by Anthony Van Diemen, the Governor of the Dutch possessions in the East Indies, on a voyage of discovery in search of new lands for exploitation by the States General of Holland. He was furnished with a yacht, the "Heemskirk," and a flyboat, the "Zeehaen" (or "Sea Hen"), under the command of Captain Jans Jansen. He left Batavia on what has been designated by

[illegible] "Happy Voyage," on the 14th August, [illegible] Tasman bore away to the south [illegible] Van Diemen's Land, on the 24th November; [illegible] he sighted the west [illegible] New Zealand on the 13th December of the [illegible] "high mountai[illegible]

[illegible] that the land he saw was part [illegible] by Schouten an[illegible] Staaten Land had been given [illegible] within three months [illegible] to be merely an i[illegible] received the nam[illegible] to a province of [illegible] and by this nam[illegible] along the coast to a [illegible] known as Golden or Mas[illegible] Here an unprovoked at[illegible] in the death of four of Tasm[illegible] Tasman steered along the [illegible] a passage to the east, he pa[illegible] finally taking leave of [illegible] Three Kings Islands he made [illegible] aspect of the natives terrified [illegible] resumed. Tasman left New Zea[illegible] of its inhabitants. He had [illegible] weeks without landing or planting the [illegible] more than a century and a quarter ela[illegible] known to have visited New Zealand [illegible] of his search after a new continent, [illegible] transit of Venus at Tahiti, sailed south [illegible] Staaten Land in the barque "Endeavour," [illegible] In the words of an admiring panegyrist, "[illegible] on the map, and left it an archipelago." [illegible] eastern coast of North Island, New Zealand, [illegible] named "Young Nick's Head, after the look[illegible] of "Land ho" from the truck. On the [illegible] in Poverty Bay, so-called from the hostility [illegible] lack of manifested hospitality.

[illegible] had thus far been sailing southward. Dissatis[illegible] and finding it difficult to procure water in suffici[illegible] Cook put about, determining to follow the coast to [illegible] He named a promontory in the neighbourhood C[illegible] Another promontory more to the north, where a h[illegible] a hasty retreat, he called Cape Runaway. In the mo[illegible] he touched at a point on the coast, where he landed [illegible] an observatory for the purpose of observing the transit

Mercury—one of the chief objects of his expedition on that occasion. A signal station was erected on the headland from which Cook took his observations, and which is now known as Shakespeare's Head. On the 15th of November the transit of Mercury was successfully observed, and the name Mercury Bay was given to the inlet where the observation was made. Two localities, for reasons which will be obvious, were called Water Bay and Mangrove River. Before leaving Mercury Bay, Cook caused to be cut upon one of the trees near the watering place the ship's name and his own, with the date of arrival there, and, after displaying the English colours, took formal possession of it in the name of His Britannic Majesty King George the Third. It is noteworthy that Cook always managed to obtain wood and water wherever wood and water were to be had, no matter whether his intercourse with the natives were friendly or otherwise. He also contrived to carry on his surveys in spite of all opposition with such accuracy and deliberation that they remained the standard authority on the outlines of the coasts for some seventy years or more. He was, moreover, a benefactor in no mean degree to the natives, who seldom knew the meaning of meat, save at a cannibal feast after a tribal victory. He not only improved their vegetables by giving them seed potatoes, but he turned loose fowls and pigs to supply their flesh larder. To the time of writing, the wild pigs which the settlers shoot in the forests and in the mountain gorges are called after Captain Cook, and they furnish many a solitary shepherd, miner, farmer, and gum-digger with excellent meat. Cook was, perhaps, either more prudent, or more successful, than his consort Captain Tobias Furneaux, of the "Adventure," who, on a subsequent voyage to New Zealand, lost an entire boat's crew of nine men, who were captured or killed, and duly cooked and eaten by the Maoris.

On the 17th December, the "Endeavour" doubled North Cape, which is the northern extremity of North Island, and began the descent of its western side. The weather now became stormy, and with a repetition of Tasman's experience from an opposite course on the same coast, very dangerous. Often was the vessel compelled to stand off in great distress, and intercourse with the natives was considerably interrupted. At one point, however, the English mariners satisfied themselves that the inhabitants ate human flesh—the flesh, at least, of enemies who had been killed in battle. On January 30th 1770, Cook erected a flag-post on the summit of a hill in Queen Charlotte's Sound, where he again hoisted the Union Jack, and, after naming the bay where the ship was at anchor after the Queen, took formal possession of the South Island in the name of His Majesty King George the Third.

Cook crossed the waters of Doubtless Bay on the same day that the French Captain, De Surville, in the "St. Jean Baptiste," was approaching the land at Mangonui. A few hours afterwards, and totally unaware of Cook's presence in New Zealand waters, the Frenchman anchored in this very inlet, and named it Lauriston Bay. This navi-

ment, who believed that
in the South Seas, and sailed
participate in the exploitat
the natives with great k
than spars for his ship, he
from the Rarawa chief,
his sick seamen with great
ship-board for his native
De Surville, only el
Maori chief, was drow

the British Government in sear
continent, paid another visi
course of the three w
the country five differ
326 days. His vari
to February 25th, 1777.
Captain Tobias Furneau
him

Marion du Fresne anchored his two
the "Mascarin," in the Bay o
expedition of discovery, sail
in command of th
and the two ships put
was frequently on shore d
in the mind of the Fre
the natives. Both race
treated us," says Croz
slaves, with the int
The Maori version given
party with every kin
two of our chiefs
matters little whether th
guests or not: the fact
the French when twenty-eight
and eaten. Crozet, wh
in the Kawakawa River,
treacherous savages; but he
who had killed his
Before leaving the river he
a stay of sixty-four days in the

Cook gave a most graphic descri
Men engaged in commerce
the various articles which New
importance as a market for manu
and the scientist regarded with great

information recently published respecting a race of people who, while having a real though hitherto undescribed form of civilisation, were yet greedy eaters of human flesh. Cook's report of the genial climate, the fertile soil, and the evergreen forests of the new archipelago not only excited considerable interest in England, but so captivated the eminently practical mind of Benjamin Franklin that the American philosopher published a proposal for its immediate colonisation.

In virtue of the sovereignty established by Captain Cook, the islands were included as a part of the British dominions in the Royal Commission appointing the Governor of New South Wales in 1787. In the following year Captain Arthur Phillip and his little colony of convicts established themselves on the shores of Port Jackson, New South Wales. There is no doubt that the selection of Botany Bay as a place of penal settlement was largely due to Cook's official report as to the suitability of the locality; but it was keenly debated in the House of Commons whether Cook's New Zealand or Cook's Botany Bay should be the site of the first experiment in penal colonisation. "New Zealand," says an early historian, "escaped the perilous distinction, possibly on account of fears entertained that the existence of her ferocious cannibal population might prove incompatible with the safe keeping and probationary discipline of the prisoners, and that in some fatal outbreak of the cannibal passion, convict, governor, and guard might undergo the common lot, prematurely, in the native oven.' This, perhaps, may have been the reason; indeed, the early authorities of New South Wales had a thorough dread of the old-time Maori.

In 1791 Captain Vancouver anchored in Dusky Bay when on his voyage round the world, and in 1793 Admiral D Entrecasteaux touched at New Zealand in his search for the unfortunate La Perouse. In the latter year, also, the "Daedalus,' under the command of Lieutenant Hanson, was sent by the Governor of New South Wales to cruise about the New Zealand coast with the avowed intention of kidnapping one or more Maoris to teach the convict settlers of Norfolk Island the Maori method of flax-dressing. Unfortunately, one of the captives secured was a priest ("tohunga") and the other a chief ("rangatira,") and they would not admit that they knew anything about such work, so were restored to their homes after several months' detention.

In the year 1793, Sydney whalers began to visit the coasts of New Zealand, and adventurous spirits, honest and outlaw, ran into the ports of the islands for spars and flax, preserved human heads, and other native curiosities. Frightful atrocities were at times perpetrated by the Maoris, although it must be admitted that in some cases the knavery and cruelty of the traders were directly responsible for them. In 1807 a vessel had been taken by the east coast natives, and the entire crew, with one exception, were killed and eaten. In 1809 occurred the "Boyd" massacre, when fifty Europeans were murdered at Poverty Bay. In 1816 the brig "Agnes" was stranded in the same locality, and out of a crew of fourteen all save one were killed and eaten.

[illegible] was carried on for a time, the [illegible] export from the then territory [illegible] the unrestricted slaughter of the anima[illegible] caused their capture to be no longer a payin[illegible] was also a trade in timber hewn near the shor[illegible] shipped at profitable prices from Sydney t[illegible] Hope. The Bay of Islands was also th[illegible] during the palmy days of the whaling industry [illegible] Missionaries appeared, and strengthened th[illegible] which had grown up through trade, though New [illegible] the evil reputation of being the Alsatia o[illegible] Missionary enterprise was made possible by the growing [illegible] between the whites and the Maoris. To the islands flocked [illegible] runaway convicts, and all kinds [illegible] of the "Bounty" Hayes type. Sometimes [illegible] were eaten; sometimes they were adopted [illegible] and speedily sank below the level of the Maoris [illegible] two, or three wives according to fancy or [illegible] they were dead or their adopted tribesmen. As [illegible] between the whites and the natives, the "Pakeha Maori" [illegible] and his native right for a mess of savage pottage, [illegible] competition among the islanders, who found him a [illegible] commodity. During the latter part of the days of [illegible] to 1807, the first natives, amongst them several [illegible] went to England and to New South Wales. These [illegible] Samuel Marsden, who resolved upon [illegible] a St. Augustine to the Maoris. In 1807 Marsden [illegible] Governor King to England, to enlist the aid of the [illegible] Society in the establishment of a mission settle[illegible] New Zealand. On his return to the Colony in 1810 he [illegible] two lay catechists for his mission, Messrs. King [illegible] a sawyer and an iron-worker. When the missionaries [illegible] the air was filled with rumours of rapine and murder. [illegible] realised. These arose out of the horror excited by the [illegible] known to history as the "Boyd" massacre—an act of [illegible] vengeance dealt out to the passengers and crew of the ship [illegible] for the flogging of a chief's son.

[illegible] mooted to the merchants of Sydney about this time to [illegible] a New Zealand Company in New South Wales, and the pre[illegible] arrangements had been completed before tidings of the [illegible] came to Port Jackson; but when the tragedy was made [illegible] clear was abandoned, and the catechists for the New Zealand [illegible] recalled to Parramatta to wait until the public indignation [illegible] Meanwhile Mr. Kendall came to join the mission, but [illegible] was sent to Parramatta with his wife and family, until con[illegible] could be on the New Zealand coast begat renewed confidence. [illegible] the time of the disorder in the mother colony, brought about

to the quarrels of Governor Bligh with the officers of the New South Wales Corps, a disastrous license appears to have been taken by the whalemasters trading from Port Jackson to New Zealand, which provoked reprisals on the part of the natives, entailing some loss of life.

In the year 1814 Governor Macquarie gave Mr. Marsden leave of absence to go to New Zealand to establish his mission, provided the natives on the east coast of the North Island were reported to be in a peaceful condition. To obtain the necessary information Mr. Marsden despatched the brig "Active" to the Bay of Islands, under the command of Captain Peter Dillon, who subsequently became celebrated for his discovery of the relics of La Perouse and his expedition on the island of Vanikoro. Mr. Kendall accompanied the brig, and several native chiefs returned in her to strengthen the chances of Mr Marsden's visit. On the Governor's being satisfied with the report, the chaplain departed on his three months leave of absence. He was accompanied by the catechists, Messrs. King, Hall, and Kendall, and a Mr. Nicholas. Mr Marsden opened his mission at the Bay of Islands on Christmas Day, 1814. The natives had made rude preparations for the event by enclosing half an acre with a fence, erecting a pulpit and reading desk in the centre, covered with native mats dyed black, and using as seats for the Europeans some bottoms of old canoes, which were placed on each side of the pulpit. A flagstaff was erected on the highest hill. After the celebration of the service, which was heard with much decorum and attention, Mr. Marsden preached from the passage in St. Luke, "Behold I bring you glad tidings of great joy." The natives, of course, knew not what he said, so that the sermon was, perhaps, more picturesque in its *entourage* than edifying in its effects. At its conclusion the Maoris indulged in their war dance, and thus Christianity and cannibalism came into contact. New Zealand was practically proclaimed a dependency of New South Wales by the appointment of Missionary Kendall as Resident Magistrate at the mission station.

After visiting the Thames, Mr. Marsden returned to New South Wales, leaving the catechists at the Bay of Islands. He did not again visit the mission until 1819, when an ordained clergyman, the Rev. S Butler, was appointed to take charge of the station. The mission brig, the "Active," which had been purchased by Mr. Marsden in 1814, was, however, kept running between Port Jackson and the Bay of Islands, so that the catechists were in constant communication with head-quarters, while the whale ships frequenting the Bay gave some measure of protection by their presence. Acting under instructions from Governor Macquarie, Marsden explored a considerable portion of the northern part of New Zealand. He appears to have been the first European who published a description of the Hokianga River, which had been made known to Governor King from the map of the North Island drawn by the Maoris, Tuki and Huru, on the floor of the Governor's house at Norfolk Island. In the year following he visited

New Zealand in H.M. storeship the "Dromedary," which [illegible] to procure spars for topmasts for the Navy. He [illegible] North Island for several months, exploring the Thames, Ta[illegible] districts.

The progress of the missionaries in their task of christian[illegible] the Maoris was at first [illegible], but it be[illegible] general during the [illegible] years [illegible] the annexatio[illegible] the British Crown in [illegible]

Marsden had a veritable [illegible], and he th[illegible] in the saving efficacy of [illegible]. He wi[illegible] to learn a trade. He [illegible] a blacksmi[illegible] a chaplain, and his [illegible] of tools [illegible] as well as of the [illegible]. He sought to [illegible] them to dig and [illegible] the fut[illegible] by th[illegible] Crown [illegible] the man [illegible] characte[illegible] his Yorkshire [illegible] [illegible] with imaginati[illegible] [illegible] as quickly [illegible] [illegible] adherents of church[illegible]

[illegible] missionaries was a [illegible] the services of [illegible] Mr. Kendall went to [illegible] The preache[illegible] writing [illegible] the native race. Hongi [illegible] his vengeance [illegible] escaped him. In [illegible] Mr. Kendall obtained the assist[illegible] constructed a gramm[illegible] New Zealand language sufficient for the tra[illegible] England, Hongi was lionised. [illegible] and various admirers pr[illegible] gifts. On leaving England the [illegible] a passage to Sydney on his way hom[illegible] Hongi [illegible] his residence with his frien[illegible] a neighbouring chief, on a visit [illegible] that while Hongi was in Engla[illegible] had been killed by some connecti[illegible]

Hinaki's people. Here, then, was an immediate opportunity of trying his guns, and testing the invulnerability of his royal suit of armour. Hinaki sued for peace, but Hongi wanted war, and intended to have it. To this end he disposed of all his other presents and converted the proceeds into more muskets and more ammunition. Although Hongi and Hinaki sat at the same table, slept under the same roof, and travelled back to New Zealand on the same ship, none of Hinaki's arguments could induce the blood lustful chief to abandon his design of having a practical test of the new instruments of warfare which he had procured in England. There was nothing for it, therefore, but for Hinaki to meet his followers on his return home and make the boldest showing possible. When the battle was fought he maintained a brave resistance for some time, but at length the new weapons prevailed, and Hinaki, together with a thousand of his followers, were slain, while numbers were taken captive. Of the slain 300 were cooked and eaten on the battle field by the victors. Hongi next invaded the territory of the tribes round Mercury Bay, and then proceeded to Kaipara where he made a great slaughter. In 1822 he again visited the Thames and the Waikato, and wounded the Waipa, where he took several large "pahs,' and proceeded thence almost to the Wanganui, slaying in this expedition about 1,500 of his enemies. His name spread terror wherever he went, and when remonstrated with by the missionaries he declared his intention of subjugating the whole island. In 1823 he won a victory at Rotorua, when many were slain. In 1827 he declared war against Tara, and the tribe which had been concerned in the "Boyd" massacre, and during the early part of the year his followers plundered and burnt the Wesleyan Missionary Station at Whangaroa. The life of this remarkable savage terminated in March, 1828, from injuries received by a bullet wound in the preceding year. It has been computed that about 10,000 persons were killed in Hongi's various raids, and some writers have not hesitated to double this estimate.

In the year 1825 the first New Zealand Association was formed in London. It was composed of men of influence, among whom was Lord Durham. A vessel was fitted out for the purpose of exploring the country and conveying settlers to New Zealand. The command of the ship, called the "Rosanna," was given to Captain James Herd, a seaman well acquainted with the New Zealand coast. No later than the year 1822 he had been in the Hokianga River in the ship "Providence,' when he witnessed a deed of conveyance of land from native chiefs to one Charles, Baron de Thierry, who, in his absence, was represented by Mr Kendall. With the exception of Marsden, all the early missionaries seemed determined to do all they could to deprive Great Britain of her sovereignty over the islands. Captain Herd bought two islands in the Hauraki Gulf, and a strip of land at Hokianga. The "Rosanna" arrived in Hauraki Gulf in 1826, reached the Bay of Islands on the 26th October of the same year, and proceeded thence to Hokianga, where a record of this early attempt at colonisation is still preserved in

the South Seas—more birds of pleasure and passage; and fourth, the traders and others settled at the Bay of Islands. In the last-named beautiful inlet had been founded a marine Alsatia, a Bohemia of infamous license, known as "Kororareka" (now Russell), where, on occasion, as many as a thousand whites indulged in unbridled and brutalising debauchery, no fewer than thirty-five large whaling ships at a time lying off its beach in the Bay. Matters, indeed, had reached such a pitch that the better-disposed of the inhabitants formed themselves into a vigilance committee, each member of which attended the meetings armed with musket and cutlass.

In 1830, so horrible had become the outrages of the traffic in preserved and tattooed human heads, that Governor Darling prohibited the commerce, and, inferentially, the secret murders due to it, by attaching a penalty of £40, coupled with exposure of the name of the trader who should engage in it. The missionaries, utterly powerless to stem or turn this gathering flood of vice and violence, were moved in 1831 to induce the various chiefs of the neighbourhood to petition the British Government for some protection and repressive aid; and it was high time, as the annals of the period show, though on rare occasions constituted lawlessness could be enlisted in upholding constituted authority, yet, even then, at the expense of the extinction of every sentiment of pity or mercy. Thus, a Sydney vessel, having eighty convicts on board, anchored in the Bay of Islands, when it transpired that the outlaws had overpowered their guard, and, seizing the craft, managed to navigate her to New Zealand. On their arrival, an old trader named Duke, with the assistance of a number of Maoris whom he had enlisted in his service, immediately boarded the vessel, fought and conquered the felon barrators, and took them back to Sydney, where nine were duly hanged for their offence. A type of the class of ruffians, the most infamous of all, who frequented New Zealand waters at this period was a trader named Stewart. This fiend in human shape formed a most bloodthirsty compact with a Maori chief named Te Rauparaha, famed alike for craft and cruelty. The chief's father had been slain in an incidental fray by the Maoris of Kaiapoi in the South Island, and Te Rauparaha burned to avenge his death. When Stewart arrived in the "Elizabeth," Te Rauparaha hired the vessel to take him, on payment of 30 tons of flax, to Akaroa, which was inhabited by natives of the same tribe as those who had slain his father. The local chief and his friends visited the vessel on Stewart's assurance that he had no hostile Maoris on board, Te Rauparaha and his men concealing themselves in the hold. Then a scene of frightful carnage ensued. The chief and his "rangatiras" were seized, the men warriors and common people butchered, while the remainder were reserved for a worse fate. Te Rauparaha and his followers, flushed with success, landed and fired the village, murdering all they could lay hands upon. Some of the bodies were taken on board and, with Stewart's acquiescence, cooked in the brig's coppers. On returning to Cook's Straits, Te

were released; two villages, crowded with a mixed assemblage of men, women, and children, were cannonaded; the habitations in two "pahs" and their accumulated store of provisions were burned, and the head of the principal chief, who had been slain, was cut off and kicked by the triumphant soldiers and marines as a football along the beach. Thus all the enlightened white emulate the brutalities of the uncivilised barbarian. In the year 1837 Governor Bourke recalled Busby, on the ground that his appointment to the consulship at Kororareka had not answered the expectations that had been formed.

In 1837 Captain Hobson was in Sydney in command of H.M.S. "Rattlesnake." A serious war was then raging among the native tribes at the Bay of Islands, and Sir Richard Bourke thought it his duty to request Captain Hobson to proceed thither and protect British interests, and to report on the condition of the country. In the report, which attracted considerable attention, Captain Hobson proposed that factories should be established after the manner of the early trading companies of the English and the Dutch. When making the recommendation he was probably not aware that the Sydney merchants had, in 1815, made a similar proposal to Governor Macquarie. He also recommended that a treaty should be made with the New Zealand chiefs for the recognition of the factories and for the protection of British subjects and property.

It was also in the year 1837 that the New Zealand Association was formed, Mr. Francis Baring being the chairman. Several of those gentlemen who were in the venture of 1825 to Hokianga, were on the Committee, as well as some of those who were active in colonising South Australia. At their head were John Lambton, Earl of Durham, and Edward Gibbon Wakefield. One of the most prominent members was Sir William Molesworth. The movement towards systematised colonisation had a certain disturbing effect upon the Colonial Office. One fact of the matter was, that the Colonial Office had been foolishly committed to the acknowledgment of the "Confederacy of the Thirteen Chiefs," and did not know precisely how to recover the lost ground. Lord Glenelg was willing to grant the Association a charter of colonisation under certain conditions, provided the consent of the chiefs could be obtained. One of these conditions was objected to by the promoters. Lord Glenelg insisted that a certain amount of capital should be subscribed, and a fixed proportion paid before the Association should assume any authority. Lord Durham said the Association would "neither run any pecuniary risk nor reap any pecuniary advantage," and so the negotiations came to an end. In June, 1838, Mr. Francis Baring obtained leave to bring in a Bill for founding a British colony in New Zealand, and though the first reading was carried by seventy-four votes to twenty-three, it was thrown out on the second reading by a majority of sixty.

In the meantime the islands were being overrun by speculative "land sharks,"—clever adventurers who, well surmising an impending

affairs in New Zealand, hastened to secure
vague and shadowy enough, to huge estates
It is alleged that most of the so-called purchases
altogether fictitious, or else were imperfect and
By the year 1840 it was estimated that
or nearly a third of the islands, were sup-
acquired" by the "land sharks" The claims
dubious transactions brought in due course a
confusion, bitterness, and heart burning. There was
constituted authority to deal with such cases,
between the Maori warrior chiefs and the sharpers
the estates of the tribes was rapidly becoming
Annexation by Great Britain was the only solution of the
to the credit of Marsden and his assistant, the Rev
that they had both come to see this clearly. Moreover,
of no very pleasant character that the French had
islands. The missionaries were now on the horns of
They had done their utmost to set up a native nation
of Great Britain With a few exceptions they dreaded
but they dreaded annexation by the French most of all
attempt of the quaint adventurer De Thierry to
of his own in the North Island was also a factor in
events This amusing gentleman had endeavoured to
sympathies of his countrymen and his Government, though
with small success. His efforts in this direction, however,
attract French attention to New Zealand as a desirable
when another knight of fortune, also French, by name
captain of a whaling ship, appealed to his countrymen to
exploiting the islands, there was a respectable measure of
Langlois professed to have bought 300,000 acres of land from
of the Banks Peninsula, in the South Island. Owing to
exertions of this adventurer, a French syndicate, called "The
Company," was formed to found a French settlement
shores of the beautiful inlet of Akaroa Harbour, on the island
Langlois declared he had purchased, and in this colonising
one of the shareholders was Louis Philippe. The formation
French company, as well as the antics of Baron De Thierry,
little uneasiness, and all sorts of vague surmises, as to the
of the intentions of France.

time in the year 1838, a public meeting had been held at
to consider the best means of preserving life and property
district, and the Kororareka Association was formed for this
When the news of the proceedings at the township capital
Bay of Islands reached Great Britain, the Colonial Office awoke
seriousness of the situation, and saw that further delay might
fatal to British interests in the islands, and the annexation of
Zealand to the Empire was determined upon. Still the pos-

dings were of the tardiest. In December, 1838, it was proposed at a British Consul should be appointed to reside in New Zealand, nd Sir George Gipps, the Governor of New South Wales, was ficially informed of the intention ; but it was not until the middle of he next year that the selection of a consular agent was made, and it as determined that "certain parts of the islands of New Zealand hould be added to the Colony of New South Wales as a dependency of hat Government, and that Captain Hobson, R.N., should proceed ither as British Consul to fill the office of Lieutenant-Governor." n June and July the arrangements were gazetted ; in August Lord Normanby gave the Consul his instructions ; and that official at once repared to proceed with his family in H.M.S. "Druid" to Port ackson, where he arrived on the Christmas Eve of 1839.

Captain Hobson's instructions were to establish a form of civil overnment with the consent of the natives ; to treat for the recogni- ion of Her Majesty's authority over the whole or any portion of the lands ; to induce the chiefs to contract that no lands should in future e sold except to the Crown ; to announce by proclamation that no itles to lands acquired from the natives or the dependency would be cognised except such as were confirmed by a Crown grant ; to range for the appointment of a commission to determine what lands eld by British subjects had been lawfully acquired , and to appoint a rotector to supervise the interests of the Maori population. Captain obson was armed with a dormant commission, authorising him, after nexing New Zealand, to govern it in the name of the Queen. In ydney a Royal Proclamation was issued, under which New Zealand as included within the political boundary of the Colony of New South ales. Captain Hobson was to act as Lieutenant-Governor, with the overnor of New South Wales as his superior officer In H.M.S 'Herald' he left Sydney for the Bay of Islands where he arrived on anuary 29th, 1840, " and was loyally received by the Alsatians.' The istory of New Zealand, as a portion of the British Empire, dates from hat day.

Captain Hobson was accompanied by a Treasurer, a Collector of ustoms, a Police Magistrate, two clerks, a sergeant, and four men of e mounted police of New South Wales. As soon as the "Herald" t Port Jackson Sir George Gipps issued three proclamations, the rst, already referred to, extending his government to any territory hich had been or might be acquired in sovereignty by Her Majesty within the group of islands in the Pacific Ocean commonly called ew Zealand , the second, appointing Captain Hobson Lieutenant overnor of any territory that might be acquired by Her Majesty ; nd the third declaring that Her Majesty would not acknowledge as valid any title to land which either had been or should be thereafter equired in that country, which was not either derived from or con- rmed by a grant made in Her Majesty's name or on her behalf. To the land claimants of Sydney the latter proclamation was especially

[illegible] had bought large tracts for specu[illegible] commissioners were subsequently [illegible] put forward by some individuals to [illegible] in the islands. A Bill was introduced [illegible] Parliament during the session of 1840 fo[illegible] Mr W. C. Wentworth and Mr James Busby [illegible] of Islands, and some others who had purchased [illegible] New Zealand chiefs, resisted the inquiry. These p[illegible] land to the amount of [illegible] acres in the [illegible] acres in the North Island, for which they had [illegible] sum in cash, and agreed to the further payment of £10[illegible] to each of the chiefs that had ceded his territory. [illegible] were heard at the Bar of the Legislative Council, both [illegible] and by counsel, in defence of their claims and in opposit[illegible] Messrs. Wentworth [illegible] were heard personally [illegible] through their counsel Mr [illegible] Chief J[illegible] and Mr Darval. [illegible] which the [illegible] and advocates were [illegible] possess[illegible] right in the country [illegible] occup[illegible] they became [illegible] of cultivation [illegible] inhabited by [illegible] to any other [illegible] of this description [illegible] in that po[illegible] [illegible] possess[illegible] [illegible] the Crown, and the [illegible] to be ousted by [illegible] was passed, and after the [illegible] comprising subjects of [illegible] resident in New Zealand, [illegible] measure, and appealed to [illegible] right of the Governor and Co[illegible] such a regulation. [illegible] and assumed the title of a C[illegible] instances, were to the effect that [illegible] was a mere fraction of [illegible] were disallowed altoget[illegible] this Bill into the Legislative Co[illegible] the course of the preceding ye[illegible] a Treasury minute had been m[illegible] the revenue of New South Wales [illegible] New Zealand as a dependency [illegible] Lieutenant-Governor, the funds so [illegible] revenue received from the territo[illegible] the native proprietors in accordance w[illegible] and Council of the older colony for t[illegible]

The persons in England interested in New Zealand colonisation were by no means content to put up with failure to obtain parliamentary sanction to their enterprise as already narrated. After the collapse of the Association in 1837, Edward Gibbon Wakefield had journeyed to Canada with Lord Durham, and returning with his chief to England immediately formed a New Zealand Land Company, of which Lord Durham was Governor, and Mr. Joseph Somes Deputy Governor. The first paragraph in the prospectus of the Company declared its character, and showed that it was not open to the objection made to the Association. It said:—"This Company has been formed for the purpose of employing capital in the purchase and re-sale of lands in New Zealand, and the promotion of emigration to that country." The capital was £400,000 in 4,000 shares of £100 each, with a deposit of £1 per share. Rusden remarks, in his history of New Zealand, that the capital of £100,000 was paid up, and 100,000 acres of land in New Zealand had been sold before a title to one had been acquired. They (the shareholders who paid money) drew lots for sections unknown of lands which the Company was about to seek."

A preliminary expedition was prepared to sail in April, 1839, in the Tory, a vessel of 400 tons burthen, with the first body of the Company's emigrants, and letters of introduction to Governors of Colonies were solicited at the Colonial Office. The answer was that the Queen would be advised to take measures to obtain by cession the sovereignty of the islands, and that no pledge could be given for the future recognition on the part of the Crown of any titles to land which the Company might obtain by grant, or by purchase from the natives. Nothing daunted, however, by this rebuff, the "Tory" put to sea on the 14th May, under Colonel William Wakefield, of the Spanish Legion, and after repeated efforts to obtain the help and sanction of the British Government, the Company had decided to go unauthorised. The destination of the expedition was the southern end of North Island. Two days after the departure of the "Tory" the Company's directors communicated to the Government that the Association had been re-formed, and Lord Normanby was told that preparations for a very extensive emigration were in progress in various parts of England and Scotland.

The "Tory," which carried an exploring staff, and a cargo of trade for barter with the Maori chiefs, arrived at Queen Charlotte Sound on the 16th August after a rapid passage, for that time, of ninety-six days. Wakefield spent some time in Cook's Strait on land purchasing expeditions, and carried on a series of negotiations with the Maori chiefs, which led to extensive purchases of territory. On the last day of September, 1839, he took formal possession of Port Nicholson in the name of the Company and the New Zealand flag was hoisted and duly saluted. Colonel Wakefield reported to the Company that he had purchased a territory of many millions of acres, as large in area as Ireland, extending from 38° to 42° south latitude on the west coast, and from 43° to 44° south latitude on the east coast—in short, nearly the whole of what are

Queen over the islands of New Zealand, and to assume the Government thereof. Immediately after his arrival, he issued an invitation to all British subjects to meet him at the church at Kororareka the next day, where he read two commissions, one extending the limits of New South Wales, and the second appointing him Lieutenant-Governor over such portions of New Zealand as might thereafter be added to Her Majesty's dominions. Two proclamations were also read, the first announcing that Her Majesty's authority had been asserted over British subjects in New Zealand: and the second that Her Majesty did not deem it expedient to acknowledge as valid any titles to land in New Zealand which were not derived from or confirmed by the Crown. Notices in the native language had been circulated on the Friday previous, stating that Captain Hobson would, on February 5th, hold a meeting of the chiefs for the purpose of explaining to them the Royal Instructions he had received, and of placing before them a copy of a treaty he would submit for their adoption. On February 5th and 6th the chiefs considered and approved of the treaty at Waitangi, or "Water of Weeping," as it is named on account of the proximity of the falls. Tents and a platform were erected at Waitangi, and the northern chiefs were invited to meet and confer with the Queen's representative. Much to the annoyance of those persons promoting the treaty, Bishop Pompallier appeared in full canonicals to oppose the new departure, and this was looked upon as a signal instance of French machiavelianism and designing subtlety. On the other side, Henry Williams, the ablest of Marsden's lieutenants, threw all his weight into the scale, and acted as translator. Waka Nene, a Nepaul chief, ably supported him. A strong minority of the Maoris was emphatically hostile. The officials looked on anxiously. Then it was that Waka Nene, the most influential man of his tribe, threw his "mana" on the side of the Government, and spoke strongly and consequently for annexation. His speech gained the day, and a treaty was drawn up and signed. By the preamble, Queen Victoria invited the confederated and independent chiefs of New Zealand to concur in the three articles of the Treaty on which was based the title of the Crown to the North Island. It may be thus condensed:—The Queen of England, in regard for the Maori people, desiring to preserve for them their rights as chiefs and the possession of their lands, and also seeing how many of her subjects had settled in New Zealand, and that more were about to follow, to prevent troubles arising between the two races, had thought it right to send William Hobson, a captain in the Royal Navy, to be Governor for all parts of New Zealand then or thereafter ceded to her: to effect which object the following articles of agreement were proposed:—

I. The chiefs of New Zealand cede to the Queen for ever the right of government over the whole of New Zealand.

II. Her Majesty the Queen of England confirms and guarantees to the chiefs and tribes of New Zealand, and to the respective

[illegible] thereof the full, exclusive, and u[illegible] [illegible] land and estates, forests and fishe[illegible] [illegible] which they may collectively and [illegible] as it is their wish and desir[illegible] [illegible] possession; but the chiefs of [illegible] and the individual chiefs, yield to Her Maj[illegible] [illegible] right of pre-emption over such lands as [illegible] to alienate, at such prices as [illegible] between the respective proprietors and per[illegible] [illegible] Her Majesty to treat with them on her beh[illegible] [illegible] consent to the Queen's Government, [illegible] all the Maori people and give them all [illegible] privileges of British subjects.

[illegible] the natives not merely ceded to the Queen the rig[illegible] [illegible] as the owners were willing to sell, but they ceded [illegible] right of selection over all lands; and the prac[illegible] [illegible] this, and rightly so, by each of the Govern[illegible] [illegible] of the incompetent Fitzroy, was that the Qu[illegible] [illegible] of all lands the natives were willing to sell, [illegible] were given no one else should be allowed to b[illegible] [illegible] the treaty of Waitangi made the Government [illegible] [illegible] lands sold directly by the Maori tribes, and abso[illegible] [illegible] between Maori owners and white purchasers. This [illegible] of the chief grievances that culminated in the M[illegible] [illegible] of the future.

[illegible] the treaty on the spot, and within [illegible] signatures had swollen to 512. This phenom[illegible] [illegible] was due to the energetic canvass throughout the tribal te[illegible] [illegible] by the missionaries and by the Government. O[illegible] [illegible] first-class rank and standing refused to sign, so that it [illegible] [illegible] that the Maori race accepted the treaty of Waita[illegible] [illegible] were wise in their day and generation, and the wh[illegible] [illegible] assert that down to the present time they regard [illegible] [illegible] Magna Charta of their liberties. This State docum[illegible] [illegible] utmost importance to them. It made the Queen the supre[illegible] [illegible] guaranteed full possession to the Maoris of their tr[illegible] [illegible] short, they were thereby recognised, by the power of wh[illegible] [illegible] kind of feudatory lords, as owners in fee simple of [illegible] [illegible] lands. One of the ancient lords of the soil subseque[illegible] [illegible] Maori sentiment respecting the treaty into these wor[illegible] [illegible] passes to the Queen, the substance stays with us."

[illegible] with the drawing up of the treaty of Waita[illegible] [illegible] announced by proclamation to the white sett[illegible] [illegible] Crown would not recognise validity of any titles to land [illegible] [illegible] the authority and sanction of the Queen. It is difficult [illegible] what other course the Governor could have taken, but at the s[illegible] [illegible] his treaty and his proclamation were bound to paralyse settleme[illegible]

to exasperate the entire white population, and plunge the infant colony into a sea of troubles. Outside the official class, everyone was uneasy and alarmed. All the settlers were either land-owners, land occupants, or would-be land purchasers. Yet they found themselves at one and the same time left without titles to all they possessed, and debarred from the right of buying anything more except from the Crown. The Maoris were a warlike race, and had to be treated with consideration, though as Mr. Reeves points out—"as a rule civilised nations do not recognise the right of scattered handfuls of barbarians to the ownership of immense tracts of soil, only a fraction of which they cultivate for use." However, partly from policy and partly from missionary zeal, 70,000 Maoris, or thereabout, were given a title, guaranteed by the British Crown, to some 66,000,000 acres of valuable land, and the germ was sown of a plentiful crop of troubles. Yet, after all, it was "Waitangi or nothing." Without such a guarantee as that given under the treaty, the missionaries could never have persuaded the Maori chiefs to yield up their recognised sovereignty, and the islands might easily have become a prey of the first power to whom Maori chieftain sovereignty was no recognised entity. Of course, it is now seen plainly enough that it would have been only just and statesmanlike if the recognition of native ownership had been accompanied by a vigorous policy of land purchase by the Government. But as was impossible. Captain Hobson was sparsely equipped; he received only £60,000 in three years, and did not himself appear to comprehend any pressing necessity for acquiring from the Maoris a sufficiency of land to meet the needs of the settlers.

On May 21st, 1840, British sovereignty was proclaimed over the islands of New Zealand; and not a moment too soon. Captain Hobson had hardly arranged his quarters when a French corvette came into the Bay of Islands to take possession. Finding the British flag planted in the North Island, the French commander determined to try for the South Island and hoist the tricolor at Akaroa. His design was, however, frustrated. When Governor Hobson (who, whatever may have been his shortcomings as a civil administrator, was an able and quick witted naval officer) learnt of the kindly intentions of the "Aube" towards the southern half of his vice-royalty, he turned off the British sloop-of-war "Britomart" to Akaroa, in the Banks Peninsula. The French man-o'-war had become separated from her consort, the emigrant ship, "Comte de Paris," and the British sloop managed to dash into the haven of Akaroa first, but by so little that she was engaged in saluting the British ensign only just as the "Aube" sailed into the harbour. The French commander then abandoned the design of seizing New Zealand as a French possession, and the "Comte de Paris" arriving in port, he landed the nucleus of his future colony as a friendly French settlement under the British flag. This tiny colony of men and women of French birth remained at Akaroa many years, and numbered at one time some 200

settlers. Most of them have since removed to other French colonies in the Pacific, but during their stay at Akaroa they gave a distinctive character to the culture of the soil, and the neighbourhood is still famous for its production of fine varieties of plum, pear, and peach.

New Zealand was now a British possession and a dependency of New South Wales, and its infant troubles speedily began to put on an obnoxious appearance. The white population of New Zealand was composed of antagonistic sections, all vehemently opposed. As we have seen, the missionaries joined forces with the Government; on there were the old "Pakehas," or denationalised whites, the lawless Australian skippers, traders, whalers and sealers, and the embittered land claimants, new settlers, and speculative "land sharks" also to be reckoned with. Added to these, there was the highly respectable and influential New Zealand Land Company, with Lord Durham and Edward Gibbon Wakefield at its head. While the Government was arranging the details of British supremacy, the directors in London, with an energy quite unchecked by any knowledge of the real condition of the country, kept on sending out shipload after shipload of emigrants to the districts around Cook's Strait. When the proclamations declaring the sovereignty of the Queen were made public, more than a thousand passengers had been landed from the Company's vessels in Port Nicholson. These new arrivals had "formed themselves into a Government, elected a Council, appointed Colonel Wakefield President, and had proceeded to enact laws and appoint magistrates." Although the centre of operations was at Wellington, bodies of the Company's settlers were also planted at Wanganui and New Plymouth on the west coast of the North Island, and at Nelson in the South Island. Lord John Russell was in power, and seems to have viewed the Company as a body which might be made nationally useful in promoting a wholesome emigration from the mother country, and in turning to account the barren lands and wastes of the noble colony the Empire had just acquired. Moreover, the merchants and bankers of London continued to urge the Government in the Company's favour. The association received a Royal Charter of Incorporation, and became a joint body with a capital of £300,000, while in consideration of its surrendering every pretension of right or title to all lands acquired under Colonel Wakefield's negotiations with the natives, the Crown agreed to make over to it 700,000 acres of such lands for the purposes of colonisation. These arrangements were made in England. Meanwhile, as soon as Governor Hobson heard of the proceedings at Port Nicholson, "without one hour's delay, he issued a proclamation refusing recognition of the Company's land purchases, and sent thirty men of the 58th Regiment, who had been drafted from New South Wales, and Lieutenant Smart with five of the mounted police of that colony, under the command of Lieutenant Willoughby Shortland, R.N., with seamen and marines, to put down all acts of insubordination, and to publish a proclamation declaring the provisional government of the Company

usurpation and usurping and calling upon all persons, upon their allegiance to the Queen, to withdraw therefrom, and to "submit to the authorities of New Zealand legally appointed." The settlers informed Lieutenant Shortland that they had formed themselves into a Council only until the Governor was enabled to act. There was a good deal of soreness felt over the treatment meted out to them; nevertheless, the settlers drew up an address of congratulation, which Colonel Wakefield carried to the Bay of Islands and presented to the Governor.

Under the second article of the Treaty of Waitangi, the Maoris are secured of all their territorial possessions, except such lands as they might dispose of to the Crown. It is a question of equity, however, as to how far this article should have been made retrospective. Many of the settlers in New Zealand were not "land-sharks." They had purchased their holdings in all good faith, and had held them for some years, and this was especially the case in regard to the purchases of the New Zealand Company, which had the quasi-approval of the British Government, and which had introduced hundreds of defenceless settlers of an admirable type to the colony. Whatever opinion may be entertained concerning this question, the fact remains that the Governor doubted the legality of the Company's title to the waste lands in Cook's Strait, where it had planted its little settlements, and called on the Company to prove its title good, as against the natives, before a legal tribunal specially constituted for the purpose. Governor Hobson was stricken with paralysis during the height of the important business attending annexation. Upon his partial recovery he pursued his inquiries as to the best site for the seat of government, and finally determined to select Auckland, for various reasons, as set out, to the Secretary of State, viz., on account of its central position, its great facility of internal water communication, the facility and safety of its port, and, finally, the fertility of its soil, which was stated to possess capable of appreciating it, the Governor said, to be exceptionally well adapted for every agricultural purpose. Previously, however, to his fixing the site, he had been assured, in the address presented to him by the inhabitants of Port Nicholson, that they had anticipated to the utmost possible the wants of the Government, and set apart the most desirable sections of land for the convenience of the public offices and the personal accommodation of His Excellency, feeling assured that, sooner or later, Wellington would become the metropolis and the seat of Government—a prophecy which has had complete fulfilment in fact.

There is no doubt that the refusal of the Government to make Wellington the capital greatly exasperated the Company's settlers at Port Nicholson; but other sources of friction were not far to seek. It was the Governor's duty to report to Sir George Gipps that the title of the Company to Port Nicholson itself was disputed by the natives, and also to manifest to the latter his determination honourably to fulfil the conditions of the treaty which, on behalf of the Crown, he had entered into with them. There is no doubt, however, that things were

[illegible] instead of meeting with prompt [illegible] should have dealt at once with each land [illegible] as it arose. Instead of such a [illegible] was appointed, who did not arrive [illegible], and his final award was not given for [illegible]

[illegible] country was troubled in the extreme. Colonel [illegible] the land around Port Nicholson from two [illegible] Ngatiawa and the Ngatiawa. These quarrelled [illegible] the goods paid as the price of the territory, and [illegible] attacked the latter, severely beating them, [illegible] warriors. There were also endless disputes [illegible] the Maoris concerning the site of the colony [illegible], in the first place, been foolishly pitched on [illegible] harbour upon which blew all the winds from the [illegible] rendering it the reverse of habitable. A more [illegible] found, and the settlement removed to it; and then [illegible] bickerings, which culminated in outrage and pillage [illegible] The Maoris denied absolutely the white man's title to [illegible] but the settlers resolutely retained their hold upon [illegible] known as Wellington, and New Zealand's metropolis [illegible] was moreover, a curious and complex affair. The New [illegible] twenty independent, hostile tribes, who had waged [illegible] with each other for centuries; who had chased each other [illegible], now advancing conquerors, now retreating fugitives. [illegible] rights to their lands were derived or lost through [illegible], through reconquest, through occupancy, through non-occupancy, through slavery, and through accidental spilling of blood. [illegible] recognition of the Maori right to the fee simple of the lands of [illegible] instantly revived among the tribes the bitter memories of [illegible] ferocities which had all but extinguished their race. [illegible] adjudicate in matters affecting native titles, and all disputes arising therefrom, a tribunal was instituted, called "The New [illegible] Land Claims Court," and an able and independent lawyer, [illegible] Commissioner Spain was appointed to preside, to hear evidence, [illegible] decide in all cases affecting the legality of the Company's purchases in Cook's Strait. His was a task of vast magnitude. Three-fourths of the witnesses would be excited savages, giving contradictory evidence in an unknown tongue; and when the learned Commissioner had struggled through the maze and pronounced judgment, it was probable that the pack of disputants would bow to his decision rather than that they would proceed to tomahawk each other before the Court and practically renew in Court those slumbering ferocities which the Court's inquiries had aroused. A great deal of angry feeling was evoked by the Governor's well-meant but futile attempts to deal [illegible] even-handed justice to all alike, and the Press, both in Wellington and in England, under the influence of the Company, misrepresented

such that the Governor did, impugning his motives and assailing his administration.

On receipt of Captain Hobson's despatch detailing his acts and proceedings since his arrival in the Colony, Lord John Russell gave his "entire approbation" to all and sundry that had been done, and stated that he would soon transmit Letters Patent, constituting New Zealand a separate Government, with a commission appointing Captain Hobson the first Governor. A charter for establishing in the Colony of New Zealand a Legislative and Executive Council, and for granting certain powers and authority to the Governor, was signed by the Queen on the 16th November, 1840, and published in the Colony on the 3rd May, 1841. The Letters Patent described the new Colony as consisting of the group of islands lying between 34° 30′ and 47° 10′ south latitude, and 166° 5′ and 179° east longitude; and declared that the three principal islands, known as the Northern, Middle, and Stewart's Islands, should in future be designated as New Ulster, New Munster, and New Leinster.

In the year 1837 the New Zealand Association pointed out the growing necessity of a bishop for the colony, and the idea engaged the attention of the New Zealand Land Company, but early in 1841 the proposal was adopted on a regular basis by the Established Church of England, and a Colonial Bishopries' Council was formed. The Rev George Augustus Selwyn, curate of Windsor, was chosen for the position. He sailed by way of Sydney about the end of the year 1841, landed at Auckland, the seat of his diocese on the 29th May, 1842, and soon proved an important influence in the affairs of the young colony.

Governor Hobson died at Auckland on the 10th September, 1842, from a paralytic seizure, at the age of forty nine years, and after ruling New Zealand for a little less than three years.

In the interval between Hobson's death and his successor's arrival, Lieutenant Shortland assumed the duties of Governor, and continued acting until December, 1843, when Captain Fitzroy, of "Beagle" fame, came to the colony to act as the representative of Her Majesty. Acting Governor Shortland, who had previously officiated as Colonial Secretary, was not a success. He ruled by proclamation, with the aid of laws already enacted, and avoided calling the Legislative Council together.

The unfortunate Wairau massacre, which occurred during Shortland's term of administration, had a marked effect in checking immigration to the colony. In consequence of attempting to enforce a claim to the possession of certain lands supposed to have been legally acquired, Captain Arthur Wakefield and between twenty and thirty of his followers were killed by the Maoris. The incident did incalculable harm to the British "mana" or prestige, and the ill-advised action of Captain Fitzroy, in neglecting to avenge the massacre, tended to still

[illegible] which the Maoris reg[illegible]

[illegible] New Zealand, Captain Fitzroy emb[illegible] have at all times acted in a [illegible] that his administratio[illegible] [illegible] humiliation.' He publicly re[illegible] [illegible] warrants for the arrest of Te [illegible] movers in the Wairau ma[illegible] [illegible] resigned, while the exasp[illegible] [illegible] could not be master of his a[illegible] [illegible] chiefs at Waikanae and held [illegible] [illegible] Te Rauparaha being treated [illegible] [illegible] the Maori version of the W[illegible] [illegible] that he had decided that [illegible] [illegible] they had no proper title to the [illegible] [illegible] had not decided on the owne[illegible] [illegible] surprise at this decision, and [illegible] [illegible] while the virtue of the B[illegible] [illegible] Commissioner Spain, who had [illegible] [illegible] at a sort of Land Court, was [illegible] [illegible] of justice that he vir[illegible] [illegible] emigrated to Australia

[illegible] coastal centres of settlement [illegible] [illegible] and trading depot at the B[illegible] [illegible] missionary, Waitemate (Auck[illegible] [illegible] and missionary, Wellington, on [illegible] [illegible] New Zealand Land Comp[illegible] [illegible] of the Company, at Blind B[illegible] [illegible] Akaroa, on Banks P[illegible] [illegible] planted by French [illegible] [illegible] of the Company on the [illegible] [illegible] and New Plymouth, the chief centre [illegible] [illegible] west coast of the North Island [illegible] [illegible] by the New Plymouth Comp[illegible] [illegible] formed in England, and had b[illegible] [illegible] New Zealand Company. Gov[illegible] [illegible] grants of Taranaki was to pro[illegible] [illegible] and bloodshed. The New Ze[illegible] [illegible] they had purchased from the M[illegible] [illegible] Peninsula, besides other large areas — [illegible] in fact, as large as Ireland. Mr. [illegible] [illegible] the Company should, like other clam[illegible] [illegible] deeds of sale "had a right" to co[illegible] [illegible] In England and New Zealand the Commissio[illegible] [illegible] opposed by the Company. Co[illegible] [illegible] to the Court six purchase deeds: those of [illegible] [illegible] Taranaki, Wanganui, Porirua and Manawatu-

which he sought to obtain Crown grants. Before taking evidence in the case as to ownership of the contended territory, Commissioner Spain informed Colonel Wakefield that to ask the Government for a Crown grant of land, whether the native title was extinct or not, was, under the treaty of Waitangi, *ultra vires*: in other words, it was asking the Crown to do that which was utterly beyond its powers to perform, as it could not grant that which it did not possess. After many sittings of the Court, the Commissioner reported that the New Zealand Land Company's agents had bought 282,000 acres—71,000 in the Wellington district, 151,000 in the Nelson, and 60,000 at New Plymouth. In the last-mentioned district (Taranaki) the Company claimed the entire territory. The Commissioner's award cut its claim down to 60,000 acres. But even this was now disputed, and Captain Fitzroy refused to ratify the Crown official's report, limiting the area he thought the Company had correctly purchased to 3,506 acres. This decision, which he only had power under the law to give, created much discontent and agitation among the settlers, who had been induced to leave prosperous homes under a stable Government to adventure their lives and their fortunes in a distant dependency of the Empire.

The case will appear to have been especially hard, on a calm consideration of the manner in which the lands of Taranaki had been purchased. They had been bought from the Waikatos, who had acquired them by conquest, carrying away the original owners into slavery; but the Waikatos had never taken possession of the soil by genuine occupation. When Colonel Wakefield bought them they were altogether vacant. By-and-bye the original owners of these lands, the men of the Taranaki tribe who had been conquered and made bondsmen by the Waikatos, were manumitted through missionary influence with their masters, and returned to their tribal heritage, the ownership of which they proceeded to contest with the Company. The Governor regarded the question with hypersensitive delicacy, and decided, as we have seen, that the enlarged and returned bondsmen were the true owners of the soil. He handed the bulk of the disputed territory back to the manumitted tribesmen, penned up the Company's settlers on a paltry strip of country, and temporarily ruined the settlement in Taranaki. By his act he also encouraged the Maoris to be more aggressive and grasping in their demands, gave a severe check to immigration, and dropped a smouldering ember of resentment and racial hatred which was destined to break forth in a devouring flame of violence and bloodshed and devastate the entire province. One immediate effect of Fitzroy's misdirection in the Taranaki matter was the utter paralysis which fell on all attempts at cultivation. Many colonists abandoned New Zealand, and those who remained feared that they might be driven any day from the country. They hoarded the remnants of their little means, and kept themselves in readiness to re-emigrate to Australia, South America, or some island of the South Pacific. It is thought that at this period nothing but the knowledge that they might proceed too far—

that they might disgust the white man so that he might go away, never to come back save as a conqueror, and thus deprive them of the trade they had learned to prize, with the accompanying luxuries they had learned to lust for—prevented the Maoris from utterly destroying every vestige of European occupation in the islands, and sweeping away every one of the young settlements from the face of the land.

After destroying the Company, Captain Fitzroy set to work to destroy the Crown. In the Waitang Treaty there was a clause claiming for the Queen exclusive right of purchase of native lands. The Maori Chiefs demanded that this clause should be rescinded. Governor Fitzroy assented and the "land-shark" and the speculator were once more free to exploit the [illegible] at their own sweet will. By proclamation the [illegible] the one clause of the Treaty which had been passed [illegible], and permitted [illegible] persons [illegible] in payment to the Government of the [illegible] purchased. The natives had [illegible] and had come to the [illegible] passed to the Queen, the substance [illegible]. It might now appear to [illegible] wanted the substance as well as [illegible] that he could afford no more [illegible] since the authorities received [illegible]. It is not to be wondered at that [illegible] the whites under this condition [illegible] by both parties alike, the [illegible], and reduced the land-sale tax to [illegible] law. [illegible] acres were acquired [illegible] of which was in the immediate [illegible] and should have been bought direct by [illegible] benefit. The truth was, that Fitzroy had [illegible] to do to raise revenue. His desperate [illegible] series of appalling blunders. His [illegible] replenished from Customs duties [illegible] did not resort to the Bay of Islands as [illegible] days of this ocean Alsatia, and trade had [illegible] Europeans and Maoris were deeply incensed, [illegible] getting worse instead of better. In May, [illegible] an ordinance to issue debentures, and [illegible] tender. This expedient of issuing paper money [illegible] Royal Instructions, and the Governor had no right to [illegible] His ordinance was disallowed. In June of [illegible] the ordinance of 1841, levying Customs dues [illegible] per cent on guns, gunpowder, and weapons [illegible] "any munition of war." Trade became paralysed, [illegible] at his last extremity, in order to conciliate the [illegible] Maoris of Kororareka, passed an ordinance in September, [illegible] all Customs duties at that port. Loud was the

[illegible]ulation at the Bay of Islands, but louder still were the groans from every other part of the Colony. A cry at once went up from east and west, from north and south, for a similar concession. In an attempt to please everybody the Governor thereupon abolished all Customs duties everywhere within his little realm; though fully nine-tenths of the whole public revenue of the Colony was derived from them. But revenue had to be obtained. There must be a compensating land tax, a tax on stock, and a tax on the number of rooms in dwellings. But the colonists declared, and quite truly, that they possessed no property. A considerable portion of their property in Cook's Strait had been totally destroyed by the Governor's own policy. They pleaded "no dice," and Customs duties had soon to be resorted to again. This was brought a new law, made in April, 1845, which repealed the property tax and other imposts of the preceding year.

These sudden changes in the method of taxation particularly exasperated the Maoris stationed at and around the Bay of Islands, and resulted in the last and worst of the unhappy Governor's misfortunes and blunders—an unsuccessful war. The Maoris had formed a very poor opinion of the Governor, and in order to give him an idea of their power, they invited him to a great banquet given near Auckland, and performed a war dance before their guest. Their deliberate intention was to terrify and overawe him: and in this they succeeded, for the Governor went away duly impressed.

The initial trouble which led to the first serious conflict between the British and the Maoris appears to have arisen through the amended Customs clauses which imposed the 30 per cent duty on guns, gunpowder, or weapons of any description, or any "munition of war," enacted in June, 1844. The decline of Kororareka's trade was thereby accelerated. The seat of Government was no longer at the Bay of Islands. This was another cause of Maori discontent. The foreign demand for the staple products of timber, flax, and kauri-gum had fallen off to a very large extent. Money was scarce; tobacco, blankets, and ammunition were difficult to procure, the Government had little money wherewith to purchase native lands: and, worse still, the Maoris settled round the Bay of Islands noted with jealousy the increasing prosperity of their hereditary foes, the tribes of the Waikato, and the Ngatiwhatua, stationed in the vicinity of Auckland. This last fact, more than any other, incensed the warlike tribesmen of Ngapuhi, the nation whose relations with the British were older than those of any other Maori clan. Their disaffection came to a head in the person of Hone Heke, who, though not a chief of the first rank, had won himself a recognised position by his marriage with the daughter of the renowned Hongi—a position, moreover, which his courage and intellectual gifts helped him to maintain. One of Hone Heke's first acts of lawlessness was the hewing down of the flagstaff erected on the hill of Maiki, overlooking Kororareka, and he was prompted to this action by some foreign whites of the beach-comber type, who persuaded him that, with the removal of

this symbol of British influence, prosperity would return to the Bay of Islands and the chiefs of his race. On the morning of the 8th July, 1844, Hone Heke chopped down the flagstaff, and carried away the signal-balls to his "pa" at Kaikohe. This act of overt rebellion threw the people of Auckland into a state of abject terror. Fortunately the Ngapuhi tribe at that time was divided in sentiment, and Tamati Waka Nene headed the section that stood by the Government. In response to an urgent request from Captain Fitzroy, a force of 160 men of the 99th Regiment, then stationed at Sydney, was sent over, and accompanied by a detachment of thirty men of the 9th Regiment, proceeded to Kororareka. Meanwhile the Governor had ascertained that Hone Heke's great grievance was the imposition of the Customs duties. He thereupon declared the Custom House closed, and Hone Heke then sent an apology for his conduct. Later on, at a conference with the chiefs, Hone Heke repeated his assurances of regret, and by way of proof was ordered to deliver up ten old muskets. Instead of retaining the muskets, in accordance with Maori custom, the Governor, with stupid magnanimity, returned them, and thereby gained the scorn of every true Maori in New Zealand. It was about this time that the Legislative Council, in order to allay native discontent, made a departure from the spirit of the Treaty of Waitangi by allowing the Maoris to sell their lands direct to the settlers.

The flagstaff had now been re-erected; but prosperity was slow in coming, for the whalers had not yet learnt of the repeal of the duties. Hone Heke considered that the entire abolition of the flagstaff, as the symbol of British authority, was needed to bring this about, and therefore, early in January, 1845, he again hewed it down. For a third time the post was erected and sheathed with iron, and great preparations were made to defend it. Meanwhile, Hone Heke summoned to his aid the powerful chief Kawiti and various other heads of the Ngapuhi tribe. Again the flagstaff was hewn down, and in the conflict the whites were worsted, several being killed, while the others took refuge on the vessels in the harbour. Soon afterwards Hone Heke's band destroyed nearly the whole of the settlement, and the British "mana" received a more serious blow even than the Wairau massacre had inflicted.

The ships sailed for Auckland with the soldiers and refugees on the 13th March and on their arrival the news of the evacuation and destruction of Kororareka created a panic. Frantic preparations to resist an attack were made at Auckland, Wellington and Nelson, and urgent appeals were sent to Sydney for fresh troops. The natives began to adopt a more arrogant tone than ever towards the "pakehas," and British rule in New Zealand was only saved by the dissensions which sprang up amongst the Maori chiefs themselves. Potatau Te Wherowhero (afterwards first King of the Maoris), for purposes of his own took sides with the whites, and warned Hone Heke not to attack them. Tamati Waka Nene, who was jealous of the great influence wielded by Hone Heke, resolved to crush him, and prepared to make war again

[illegible]. Several sharp conflicts ensued, when Tamati Waka Nene, hearing [illegible] troops had arrived, urged the Government to send them on at [illegible]. Hone Heke entrenched himself in a strongly defended "pa" at [illegible], while Kawiti ambuscaded on a small knoll on the edge of the [illegible]. It was soon found that the "pa" was too strong to be taken without artillery, and the Commandant, Colonel Hulme, returned to Auckland.

Captain Fitzroy then sent to Sydney for more troops and artillery, and early in June Colonel Despard arrived with 200 men of the 99th Regiment, and Major Wilmot brought some cannon from Hobart. Despard was given the command of the expedition, which arrived in the Bay of Islands in June, 1845, and comprised 630 men and 4 guns. Hone Heke had now taken up a strong position in a "pa" at Ohaeawai, and he was there besieged, the attacking force being in the proportion of three to one. Early in the siege the Maoris made a sortie, and captured a British ensign, which was hung underneath Hone Heke's flagstaff in the "pa." This so enraged Colonel Despard that he determined to make an attempt at storming the position, and on the 1st July, 1845, a force of 200 men made the attack. The result was disastrous, as the British had to retire with a loss of forty men. The British Commander now attempted to force a capitulation by cutting off supplies from the besieged, and by vigorous cannonading; but on the night of the 10th Hone Heke and his followers silently evacuated their position without the loss of a single man, and, according to the ethics of Maori warfare, gained the victory. There was nothing further to be done, so the British destroyed the palisading and retired to Waimate and thence to Auckland. This caused the British "mana" to still further decline, while the arrogance of the Maoris was inflamed, and Hone Heke was looked on as a hero by his countrymen.

Governor Fitzroy now made an effort to secure a cessation of hostilities; but Hone Heke was too much inflated by his victories, and by the adulation of his followers, to listen to peace proposals, so that after about four months had passed away the Governor decided on resuming the war. But meanwhile the news of the affair had reached England, and the authorities peremptorily recalled Governor Fitzroy and appointed Captain George Grey to the position.

Grey was only 33 years of age when he assumed the Governorship of New Zealand, but he had already given proofs of marked ability elsewhere, particularly in his administration of the affairs of South Australia, which colony he had effectually dragged from the slough of insolvency in the short space of four years. He arrived in Auckland on the 14th November, 1845. Grey first set about the task of bringing the warlike Hone Heke to submission, and he entered on the work with characteristic energy and vigour. He issued a proclamation, warning the natives to return to their allegiance by a fixed date and to observe the Treaty of Waitangi, the provisions of which he pledged himself to scrupulously respect. Hone Heke and Kawiti were

refused any terms involving fo
The Governor now returned to Auckla
"Arms Importation Ordinance,"
from acquiring arms, gunpowder, o
This step was opposed by some of the settle
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to throw in their lot with the insurgents. Ho
that the Governor's action was a wi
in command of a force of 1,173 men to
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These "friendlies" made a feigned attack on
but the main body of the allied forces b
The investment of the "pa" which was a
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several, but the besiegers gained possession of it
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back with loss. Although thirty British were
in the struggle, the blow given to Hone
the war, and the insurgents soon dispersed.
for peace, and the Governor granted a pardon
the rebellion, on condition that they returned quie
The rebel leaders offence was condoned, and
has seen no further trouble with the natives whose la
Auckland—the Ngapuhi and Ngatiwhatua. Like m
Hone Heke died a few years later of consum
commissariat general, lived for some years longer, bu
Tamati Waka Nene, the friend of the B
a pension of £100 a year till his death in 1871, a
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to their ally.

having quelled the disturbance in the north
turned his attention to the southern portion.
Captain Wakefield and his party were still at larg
settlers by the Maoris had since been comm
the insurrection in the bud, Captain Grey has
with a detachment of soldiers, but the rebels under
a strongly fortified "pa," which it would hav
Leaving a garrison to guard the settlers,
shortly afterwards the Maoris defeated a pa
Lieutenant Page, of whom six were killed and
A detachment of the 99th Regiment was also attacked

men were killed, while various murders were committed by the blood-thirsty natives, and a regular panic ensued amongst the colonists in the Wellington district. Rangihaeata meanwhile never gave the troops an opportunity of a decisive engagement, but always fell back when they appeared in strength. Captain Grey now determined on a bold stroke. From information secretly received he had come to the conclusion that Te Rauparaha was in league with the rebels, and he resolved on his capture. He therefore proceeded to Porirua, and, surrounding his residence by night, captured him and his perfidious companions, and kept them as prisoners on board H.M.S. "Calliope." The Maoris were astonished at the news, and Captain Grey's "mana" was immensely strengthened. Rangihaeata evacuated his "pa" at Pahautanui and retreated up the Horokiwi Valley. Eventually, his followers dispersed, and the rebellion came to an end.

In May, 1846, the great Maori chieftain, Te Heu Heu, the only one of the great chiefs of the North Island who refused to sign the Treaty of Waitangi, was buried alive, with fifty-four of his adherents, in a landslip at Taupo.

At this time matters were in a peaceful condition, when another disturbance broke out at Wanganui, where most of the disaffected Maoris had gathered after the dispersal of the Rangihaeata and Te Rauparaha tribes. On the 16th April, 1847, a midshipman belonging to H.M.S. "Calliope" accidentally shot a Maori "rangatira" through the cheek. Maori custom demanded revenge, and two days afterwards the house of a settler named Grindan, 6 miles from Wanganui, was raided, and his wife and four children were slaughtered. The assailants were captured by the "friendlies" and delivered up to justice, four being executed after trial by court-martial. War immediately broke out, and on the 19th May 600 hostile Maoris swooped down on the settlement. Their attack was bravely resisted, and after pillaging the town the assailants retired to a position about 3 miles distant. Meanwhile the Governor received news of the position of affairs, and reinforcements were despatched to the scene. After a few indecisive struggles the natives abandoned the campaign, naively saying, "We cannot remain any longer; we must go and plant our potatoes."

During the troubled period, from the sacking of Kororareka to the cessation of hostilities at Wanganui, close upon a million of money was expended, while the casualties comprised eighty-five soldiers, seamen, and militia killed, and 167 wounded. The colony now entered upon a period of comparative repose, and enjoyed it for about fourteen years.

Immediately on his first arrival at Wanganui, while skirmishing was going on between the forces and the natives, the Governor received certain official despatches, by which he obtained the first intelligence that the British Parliament had bestowed a new Constitution on New Zealand, and that new modes of dealing with native lands were to be adopted concurrently with the new institutions. These despatches had already appeared in the *London Gazette*, and contained language re-

lating to the rights of the Maoris to their lands calculated to provoke a breach of the peace between the two races; and it appeared that language similar in tone and meaning had been employed during the debate in Parliament on the new Constitution, and had, moreover, been republished in the English newspapers which arrived in the Colony at the same time as the despatches. Captain Grey regarded it as quite possible, therefore, that the intention to deprive the Maoris of their lands, which appeared in the new line of policy proposed for adoption, would undo all the work of conquest, and lead to a great national combination of the whole of the native tribes, and thus bring about a long, destructive, and costly war. He therefore considered it his duty to return the despatches, and the charter that came with them, to the Home Government, in order that the subject might be more fully considered, and also that delay might be obtained in the promulgation and enforcement of documents which it was to be feared would give rise to serious complications, if not to great national calamities.

The centre of the North Island was occupied by the Waikato, the Ngatimanapoto, and the Ngaiterangi nations—three great tribal confederacies, comprising many thousands of armed men. At irregular distances along the western and eastern sea-coasts were situated isolated and practically defenceless European settlements. The Tamaki district and the shores of the Manukau formed the road by which the northern and the southern tribes went to wage war with one another, and the Governor resolved to occupy this highway of warriors, which was much too near the capital to be consistent with its safety. When the settlement of Kororareka had been looted and burnt, the people of Auckland became absolutely panic-stricken with fear at their own town's defenceless condition, and now, peace being insured, the time seemed opportune to provide for the permanent safety of the capital against attack from a southerly direction. To accomplish this, Captain Grey obtained from England a number of discharged soldiers, who were enrolled for seven years' service in New Zealand, and stationed in four settlements around Auckland. Each man had built for him a cottage on an acre of land, and could, on the completion of seven years service, obtain from the Government 5 acres more. The first detachment of the new force, which became known as the "New Zealand Fencibles," arrived in October, 1847: and in a few months this military colony, with the wives and children of its members, numbered 2,000 persons. This was an admirable piece of forethought on the part of the Governor, and did much towards allaying the fears of the unwarlike section of Auckland's inhabitants.

For his success in setting things generally to rights in New Zealand, Captain George Grey was knighted. On February 26th, 1848, Lord Grey wrote to his namesake, saying,—"I have very great pleasure in communicating to you that Her Majesty has been pleased to approve of your being a Knight Commander in the Civil Division of the Order of the Bath, for the great ability and success with which you have admin-

...ed the affairs both of South Australia and of New Zealand." When ...me for his investiture arrived, the new Knight pleased the Maoris ...eatly by choosing for his esquires the friendly chiefs Tamati Waka ...ne and Te Puni; indeed, the Maoris began to regard the "Pakeha ...ngatira" with an affection and an esteem that in some instances well-...approached idolatry.

...the establishment of tranquillity the Governor undertook the for-...tion of roads, useful alike in peace or in war, and employed the ...ives upon their construction. He also settled, as far as possible, all ...standing land claims. Nor did the moral and physical welfare of the ...ves escape his attention. He saw to the establishment of schools ...their children, and advised them even on matters pertaining to their ...lth.

Having chastised and educated the Maoris, Sir George turned his ...ention to the great question of colonisation. During his adminis-...tion, the whole of the South (or as it is unnecessarily and officially ...ed, the Middle) Island, and several valuable districts in the North ...land were purchased from the tribes by Messrs McLean, Mantell, and ...r officers of the Crown, and thrown open for settlement. Besides ...g employed largely in public works, such as road-making, barrack-...ding, and the rough work of engineering, some of the natives were ...olled as policemen, and several "rangatiras" were appointed magis-...ates to try cases between their own countrymen. The payments the ...aoris received for land were frequently made in instalments of stock, ...d every encouragement was given them in the pursuit of industry ...d peace. Hospitals were erected for them, and the Governor strove ...mark into their minds the principles of sanitation. Under these ...anged conditions, immigration began slowly to revive. The Com-...y's settlements at Wellington, Wanganui, New Plymouth, and ...son, which had dropped so low, now began to expand. Otago was ...ded in 1848; or rather, a commencement of the work of colonisation ...that district was made in the month of March in the year named, by ...e arrival at Port Chalmers of two emigrant ships, sent out by the ...ago Association for the foundation of settlement, by persons belong-...g to, or in sympathy with, the Free Church of Scotland. In 1849, ...e "Canterbury Pilgrims," as they are facetiously called, made ...parations for their Utopian descent upon the shores of the South ...d. In that year was formed in England "The Canterbury ...sociation for Founding a Settlement in New Zealand. On the ...th December, 1850, the first emigrant ship dispatched by the ...sociation arrived at Port Cooper, and the work of opening up the ...ing country was set about in a systematic fashion, the intention ...the promoters being to establish a settlement complete in itself, and ...posed entirely of members of the then United Church of England ...d Ireland. The sites for the settlements of Otago and Canterbury ...re secured by Governor Grey, who was present at Lyttelton Harbour ...receive the immigrants when they landed.

The period was one mainly of peace and preparation; but th
nevertheless, excursions and alarms, though they were generally
of being dealt with by the ordinary process of the civil law,
trouble and danger had to be incurred in order to bring the
into line, and induce them to submit their customs and trad
British ideas of right and legal usage.

In the month of July, 1850, the New Zealand Land Comp
up its charter of incorporation to the Crown. No clear stat
its financial affairs appears ever to have been published. It is
its enemies to have received nearly a million of money, all of w
spent save some £30,000 sterling, and to have been indebted,
its shareholders and the Crown, at the time of relinquishing
to the extent of about £500,000 sterling. Nevertheless, Cr
colonists were alike indebted to the Company. For the first
preserved New Zealand from becoming a penal settlement of
the interests of the second it had safeguarded, at a loss both of
money, from the ill effects of the missionary policy and the ra
the protected Maoris. However, the sum of £236,000, owing
Government by the Company, was cancelled, and another an
£268,370 was made a charge on the lands of the Colony.

In the year 1851-2, the Australian gold discoveries took pl
gave a marked impetus to trade, agriculture, and every b
industry in New Zealand, though they also had the effect of
from the islands a certain portion of the settlers, who were i
of the slow methods of making a fortune offered by culture of
and who hastened to the continent to participate in the reali
the Aladdin's dream which was luring with equal pote
adventurers of civilised Europe, and of uncivilised Asia.

In the year 1852 a representative Constitution was gran
Zealand under the Imperial Act, 15 and 16 Vict. c. 72, frame
John Pakington, the Colonial Secretary, who was mainly guid
task by the recommendations and suggestions of Sir Geor
Under the measure, six provinces were created, namely A
Wellington, Nelson, Canterbury, Otago, and Taranaki, the C
defining their boundaries.

The mention of Otago and Canterbury as provincial dis
early, as defined in the Constitution Act, might lead to the sup
that they were already of political consequence. This, howe
not so. In marking their boundaries Sir George Grey was
more in making provision for future expansion than for meeting
needs. The first Otago pioneers landed at Port Chalmers on
March, 1848, from the "John Wickliffe. A second emigra
the "Philip Lang,' arrived on the 15th April following. Th
prised a colony of Scotch Presbyterians, their leader being
Cargill, a Peninsular veteran, and a descendant of Donald
The town of Invercargill still preserves the name of the fo
Dunedin. It is noteworthy that in 1898 Otago celebrated her

and that Captain Cargill's son was then Dunedin's mayor For years, however, the progress of the new settlement was slow, and it took the colonists a long time to win their way through to the more fertile country which lay beyond the rugged hills that fronted the sea. The newcomers were intensely Scotch, but later the character of the settlement changed, though slowly. The Scotch element did not disappear, even in the wave of gold seekers that swept over the island in 1861; and it has not disappeared yet, although it is much modified. The first pioneers, or "old identities," are, however, becoming rarer with every year, and some aspects of Dunedin are almost cosmopolitan.

Very different from Otago was the sister settlement, Canterbury — the most conservative attempt ever made at colonisation in the whole British annals. The settlement of Canterbury was intended to be an oversea paradise for aristocratic Anglicanism, and owed its existence to the late Lord Lyttelton. The price of land in the Canterbury block was put down at £3 per acre, of this sum, £1 was to go to the support of the Church and the advancement of education, and £2 was to be spent in the work of developing the settlement. The idea of the "Canterbury Pilgrims" was the transplanting to New Zealand of rural England as it then was, with all its social gradations, from an earl and a bishop on the top to a sublunated English labourer on the bottom. It did not work this vision of the impossible, though every effort was made to make it do so. The name of the capital of the province is borrowed from an ancient seat of ecclesiastical learning. The very streets in the Old World-flavoured city have given them the names of Anglican dioceses throughout the world: but the earl and its bishop liked not the hardships of pioneering, and quickly turned their backs on the facts that confronted a young country which had to deal at first hand with nature. Nevertheless the settlement thrived and grew apace, though not in the way its founders had intended. The features of the South Island in these early years were endowed churches, great pastoral leasehold properties, the absence of a Maori question, and wealthy territorial magnates.

The Governor was sharply attacked for his administration of affairs, and the colonists were especially incensed with him for his action in shelving the Constitution devised for them by Earl Grey. Nevertheless he adhered to the course he had marked out for himself, and notwithstanding the bickerings and onslaughts stuck steadily to his work and bought land. He acquired the whole of the South Island, and managed to lay his hands upon millions of acres in the North Island. Then came the question, should it be sold or leased to the settlers? Up to the year 1852 the colonists everywhere except in the north dealt with the New Zealand Company, and not with the Crown: but now the Company was no longer it had disposed of its interests to the Crown for all futurity. Again, the Governor made things very hard for himself, because he insisted upon putting a stop to the Church endowment system; and altogether his relations with the white popu-

lation over which he ruled were extremely unhappy at this period. Grey however, made a blunder in the framing of his Land Regulations in 1853. Under this code the price of land was reduced to 10s. per acre; but no limitations were put upon the area any one person could acquire; consequently, instead of close settlement, the island soon presented a spectacle of ducal estates and royal forests—immense areas, cheaply purchased by wealth, and locked up against colonisation. Grey probably did not foresee this result of his code, but it was destined to have lasting and mischievous effects on the future of the colony. Nevertheless, Grey's wise and steadfast rule in other respects brought prosperity to the country, and he left it in profound peace. The European population, which numbered 12,774 in 1845, had increased in 1853 to 30,678. The revenue in 1845 was £12,899; in 1853 it amounted to £147,820 The Governor left New Zealand on the last day of the year 1853, after a rule of eight years. He was only 33 years of age when he undertook to restore peace and order to a country sunk in financial mire and vainly waging an unsuccessful war: he left that country, his task fairly and honestly completed, though at the expense of his popularity among his own countrymen.

Lieutenant Colonel Wynyard, Commander of the Forces, became Administrator of the Government on Sir George Grey's departure, and brought the New Zealand Constitution into practical operation. Colonel Wynyard's rule of nearly two years was a period of quiet progress, though at one time something like a Maori rising was threatened. This was brought about by the discontent felt by the alleged inadequate punishment of a man named Huntley, who struck dead a native woman in the town of Auckland. The jury brought in a verdict of manslaughter; but the dead woman's kinsmen clamoured for the life of the slayer, on the old reckoning of blood for the shedding of blood. However, the authorities were inflexible, and the native feeling gradually subsided. During the following year a more emphatic demonstration, occasioned by a somewhat similar crime, was satisfied only by the execution of the criminal. A settler named Marsden had killed a Maori woman while he was suffering from an attack of *delirium tremens*, and the prisoner was convicted on trial and formally sentenced to death. There was an unusual delay in the carrying out of the extreme penalty of the law, and this gave rise among the natives to a report that the life of a Maori was esteemed by the authorities as being less valuable than that of a white man. Just about this time the native mind became additionally inflamed by another murder of one of their race at the hands of a drunken settler, and 300 men belonging to the tribe of the murdered woman made a demonstration, and threatened to cut down the flagstaff from which floated the British ensign. In February, 1856, Marsden was hanged, and the Maori sense of justice satisfied.

It is claimed for the new Constitution, which was mainly the work of Sir George Grey, that it evidenced, by the fact of its having worked

without alteration for twenty-two years, and in great part worked exceedingly well, that it was therefore peculiarly adapted to the particular needs of the colony at that time. This is, however, a matter upon which criticism of the colony's political history has declined to enter. Briefly stated, the following are the leading characteristics of the machinery:—A Central Parliament, consisting of two Chambers, and alongside with it six Provincial Councils (one Chamber); over the Parliament, a Viceroy, ruling through Ministers; over each Provincial Council, a Superintendent, elected, like the Council, by the people of his Province, each Superintendent to have a small executive of officials, who were themselves to be Councillors—a species of Provincial Cabinet; the Central Parliament or General Assembly to have an Upper House, and the Legislative Council, to be elected (in Sir George Grey's original draft of the Constitution) by the Provincial Councils. At this provision the Colonial Office demurred, and substituted nomination by the Crown. If the original proposal had been carried into effect, New Zealand's Senate would have been powerful enough absolutely to eclipse the Lower House. The latter was to be elective, on a liberal though not universal franchise. Grey did not set his own machinery in motion. He called into being the Provincial Council, and left the summoning of the General Assembly to his successor. The first Parliament of New Zealand was summoned by proclamation, dated January 15th, 1854, to meet upon the Queen's Birthday following. Mr. Charles Clifford, of Wellington, was elected Speaker of the Lower House, and Mr. William Swainson, the Attorney-General, was appointed President of the Council. No sooner had the General Assembly met than a difficulty arose: there was no provision made in the Constitution Act for ministerial responsibility, the measure having left it open for the colony to select the form of its Executive Government; nor had the Colonial Office sent the Governor instructions on the subject. The offices of Colonial Secretary, Treasurer, and Attorney-General were distinct from the Crown, and their holders formed (and were determined to form), with the Governor, the Executive of the colony. Governor Wynyard took refuge from his difficulty concerning ministerial responsibility by inviting to the Executive Council, Messrs James Edward Fitzgerald, Henry Sewell, and Frederick Aloysius Weld—all influential members of the House of Representatives. James Edward Fitzgerald was the colony's first Premier, and on all sides it is agreed that he was entirely unfitted to cope with the peculiar difficulties attending the introduction of Responsible Government. At all events, the arrangement introduced by the Governor refused to work with even a semblance of smoothness. Within a few weeks Fitzgerald was at loggerheads with the permanent officials of the Cabinet, and he and the two other popular Members resigned. They were succeeded by Messrs. Thomas Spencer Forsaith (formerly a sub-protector of the native population and Government interpreter) as Premier, Edward Jerningham Wakefield, William T. L. Travers, and James Macandrew. This combination is known to

New Zealand political history as the "Clean Shirt Ministry," because its leader innocently informed Parliament that, when asked by the Acting-Governor to form an administration, he had gone upstairs to put on a clean shirt before presenting himself at Government House. The "Clean Shirt Ministry" lived for exactly two days.

Things were now at a deadlock, but a compromise was at length arrived at. Colonel Wynyard was to manage, as well as he could, with his Patent Officers until a Bill could be passed and assented to in England establishing Responsible Government, and then the old officials could be pensioned off. More than one Ministry resigned office before the 16th September, on which date the Parliament was prorogued. The address to the Governor, which expressed the willingness of the House to grant supplies to a Government conducted by the old Executive—the compromise agreed upon, pending instructions from England with regard to Ministerial responsibility—was acted upon, and thus several Bills became law, the most important of which gave the Provincial Councils the management of the waste lands of the several provinces. Next year the General Assembly began business on the 8th August, when the Acting-Governor informed the Parliament that Her Majesty's Ministers had no objection to the establishment of Responsible Government, provided the Colonial Secretary, the Colonial Treasurer, and the Attorney-General were pensioned, and that no enactment was necessary for the formation of Responsible Government, as the practice rested on usage only.

Notwithstanding Acting-Governor Wynyard's expressed eagerness to introduce Responsible Government, a year passed by before the General Assembly was summoned together; and then it transacted merely formal business, as His Excellency had taken upon himself to ordain that there should be a dissolution prior to the establishment of of responsible portfolios. Thus the matter was deferred till the middle of the year 1856, when Colonel Wynyard had left the Colony. During his regime there had been little native trouble, business was brisk, sheep-farming in the South Island was progressing, and New Zealand was growing prosperous through the steady demand for its produce brought about by the gold discoveries in Australia.

Colonel Thomas Gore Browne, C.B., the next Governor, assumed the reins of office on the 6th September, 1855. On the 15th September, 1855, the Governor prorogued Parliament, to enable the people to elect members, from whom responsible ministers could be chosen. The new General Assembly met at Auckland in May, 1856. In the new House of Representatives, Mr Clifford, of Wellington, was again chosen Speaker. From the 7th May to the 2nd June three Ministries succeeded one another. The first passed a Pension Bill, granting the officers appointed by the Crown two-thirds of their salaries as retiring allowances, and leaving things clear for the exercise of ministerial responsibility. The third, or Stafford Ministry, held office for over five years, and was instrumental in giving a permanent trend to the course of New

aland's political history On its first meeting, in 1854, the General sembly quickly showed that it was broadly divided into two strongly rked parties—the "Centralists" and the "Provincialists," or those o desired the General Assembly to be paramount in all political tters, and those who were jealous of its power, and desired that both e general and local functions of the colony should be managed by the ovincial Councils. Edward William Stafford, the organiser of the st stable Ministry, was a "Centralist"; but he held no office himself r some six months after the formation of the Cabinet in June, 1856, uming the office of Colonial Secretary in the month of November llowing Mr. Stafford and three practising lawyers divided the port-lios among them, the others being Messrs. Whittaker, Richmond, and swell. Before leaving England, Colonel Browne had had an interview th Lord Elgin, the ex-Governor-General of Canada, who impressed on the outgoing official the advisableness of absolutely and docilely llowing the advice of his responsible Ministers; and this the new overnor intended implicitly to do. But the most troublesome func-ons of government were still left to the administration of the Queen's presentative. These were the purchase of land, and all matters nually affecting the natives. Ministerial responsibility here stopped ort. These were affairs of Imperial concern, and, as such, under the rect control of the Viceroy, who was counselled to take the advice of Cabinet, but not necessarily to follow it. The Native Department mained, therefore, practically a secret service, and on the shoulders Governor Browne must rest the responsibility of involving the lony in the disastrous wars that began in 1860, and continued, with termittent spasms of troubled peace, until 1870.

About the time when the General Assembly first met in Auckland, n the Government of New Zealand was handed over to the white pulation, the native mind formulated two distinct aspirations: one s the provision of a local form of government for the race; the her was the prevention of further alienation of tribal lands Both ese desires of the Maoris were regarded by the dominant whites as imical to the welfare and the progress of the country The natives ight have been led, but they could hardly be repressed; and overnor Browne was incompetent to direct the movement which amoured for a sovereign chieftainship over a cohesive and united aori nation The King aspiration was a conundrum to him; and he, fortunately, essayed its solution at the wrong end It began to ssume meaning and importance shortly after the Governor arrived in e Colony. In native affairs, he at first took a very independent atti-de, and assumed a right of personal judgment altogether unjustified y experience. He was the first to discover this; but was unfortunate h his advisers, through whose eyes he soon learned to look at all atters of public policy—native and European. Grey could have verted the King movement into a useful channel; Browne drove it to a rebellion and bloody war. As early as 1843, disputes between

settlement. The inter-tribal war was then resumed by the natives, the Government remaining quiescent. In due course, Waitere Katatore and his half brother were treacherously murdered by a chief named Hori Ngatai (Isaac), who was allowed to go free. Guerilla fighting now continued for about two years. In the encounters that took place, one hundred natives were killed and 100 wounded before a truce between the belligerents was made in the month of December, 1856. The Government then recognised that it had made a mistake in not intervening, and the principal chiefs of the North Island were invited by the authorities to a conference with the Governor on native affairs, at Kohimarama, in the neighbourhood of Auckland. About fifty of the head "rangatiras" attended, but as the inaugural address was, in the main, a special argument in support of the sale of land, the Maoris regarded the whole proceedings as a crafty attempt to out-manœuvre them, and more harm than good was done by the meeting. Meanwhile a movement of the utmost importance was making silent but strong headway among the natives. To weld into a homogeneous whole the tribes leagued together to prevent the sale of native lands, a number of the leading Waikato chiefs, of whom the most celebrated was Tarapipi Wiremu Tamihana), usually known as William Thompson, determined to elect a king. Drunkenness and its sequent evils were sapping the vitality of the race. The lands of the tribes were slipping from their retaining grasp. Before the war the Maori was alleged to be equal with his European fellow subjects of the Queen. In reality he was looked upon as an inferior and a vanquished alien, and treated with contempt. The most enlightened of the native chiefs, anxious for the salvation of their countrymen, determined to set up a central authority of their own, empowered to arrest some of the evils threatening the continuance of the Maori race. The King movement began to take shape in 1853, when a chief named Matene Te Whiwhi set out for Otaki with several other leading "rangatiras," and visited Taupo and Rotorua to obtain the consent of the more powerful tribes to the election of a sovereign of native blood, and the constitution of some kind of recognised government in the central districts of the North Island, where Europeans had not then settled; but jealousy of his own assumed pretensions defeated the success of Matene Te Whiwhi's mission. The time was, perhaps, not quite ripe, and the meetings which met to consider the project, issued the following letter to their countrymen:—"Listen all men! The house of New Zealand is one. The rafters on one side are the Pakeha, those on the other, the Maori; the ridge-pole upon which both rest is God. Let therefore the two be one. That is all!" However, the necessity for some form of central government in the districts inhabited exclusively by the Maoris did not disappear with the enunciation of this oracular utterance, and even the white settlers recognised as much. Indeed, so completely was the large and thickly populated Waikato district left to its own devices, that the Rev. Mr. Ashwell, a missionary stationed at

Taupiri, stated before a Committee of the new House of Represen
that during nineteen years prior to the King movement he co
remember more than three or four visits to the territory by any
and other districts again had not received even that small
attention. In a memorandum dated May 25th, 1861, Governor
stated that "some of the most populous districts, such as H
and Kaipara, have no magistrates resident amongst them: and
such as Taupo, the Ngatiruanui, Taranaki, and the country ab
East Cape, have never been visited by an officer of the Gove
The residents in these districts have never felt that they
subjects of the Queen of England, and have little reason to thi
the Government of the Colony cares at all about their welfar
George Grey bore somewhat similar testimony. Writing
Secretary of State, on December the 6th, 1861, he said: "Te
since, the urgent necessity of introducing simple municipal inst
among them (the Maoris) was pointed out, and the first step t
refer their disputes to our courts; but, though various proposa
been made for facilitating a further advance towards these
the matter has been practically left nearly where it the
Briefly stated, the articles of the Treaty of Waitangi had been
ignored by the British authorities. The measure spoken of
George Grey as a first step towards inducing the natives to ref
disputes to European courts, was an ordinance for app
Resident Magistrates to exercise jurisdiction in civil cases
white colonists and Maoris in claims where the amount sued
not exceed the sum of £20 sterling. There were, however, no
provided for enforcing judgment in those cases in which the
was the losing party. For dealing with cases of exclusively
disputes, a number of "rangaturas" were appointed assesso
party to the suit being at liberty to select one assessor to
judgment conjointly with the magistrate. The useful work o
these Courts was extremely limited, and the Government mad
effort to improve matters. The cost deterred it, for all the reve
the colony were needed for the purposes of settlement and
administration. Then, again, the Imperial Government con
that it had done, and was doing, quite enough for the colo
bearing the expense of the military establishment: and declar
it had no funds to spare to throw away upon the natives.
policy pursued was the only one possible under the circum
namely, that of abstention from interference in all purely
concerns. Nevertheless, some attention was paid to the nat
the authorities. A liberal distribution was made of blankets,
flour, and other articles of white "trade," in order to wi
and attach to British interests the leading chiefs. Thi
at native conciliation has been sufficiently jeered at b
unsympathetic, as "The Flour and Sugar Policy;" yet in the
its employment it served a by no means useless purpose. Of co

time went on it grew less effective, as the noisiest natives were the recipients of the largest bribes to induce good behaviour. Excessive kindness to any one section of the Maoris irritated its neighbours, and tribal wars became affairs of everyday occurrence. One reflective chief described these quarrels as "a river of blood" flowing through the land. Wiremu Tamihana Tarapipi managed to save his tribe from the utter demoralisation of drunkenness only by ejecting every white man living among his people. Even the "Pakehas" who had married Maori women were not exempt from the operation of this regulation. They had to go, and leave their families behind them; though the chief permitted the settlement of a few mechanics, by whose skill he expected to profit: but such as were allowed this privilege had to sign a bond to pay £1 for every native found drunk on their premises. Among the tribes where this precaution against it was not taken, drunkenness was greatly on the increase.

Matene Te Whiwhi had failed to secure the definite acceptance of his proposals in 1853; but the King movement, nevertheless, silently progressed. In May, 1854, another great "runanga" was called together at Manawapou, in the territory of the Ngatiruanui nation. At the place of meeting a council hall was built, 120 feet long and 30 feet wide, with two entrances. This building was called "Taporohenui," or "The Finishing of the Matter." There a league for the preservation of the native lands, similar to that of Taranaki, was formed, and a tomahawk was passed round to signify that all would agree to put to death any Leaguer who should depart from the purpose of the compact. In the year 1856, Te Heu Heu, who had adopted his brother's name on succeeding him in the Taupo chieftancy ten years before, called together another "runanga." The French Standard was hoisted, and several schemes were discussed for the preservation of Maori autonomy. No conclusive decision was, however, arrived at, although it was distinctly proposed that Potatau Te Whero Whero, the great chief of the Waikatos, should be made King. True, he was now broken and enfeebled, but he had once been a famous warrior and a man of might and "mana." The chiefs combined in the movement disclaimed hostility to Queen Victoria, but they were determined to sell no more land. They would not permit the Queen's writ to run beyond their frontier boundary, or boats and steamers to navigate their streams. There was some wild talk also of driving the "Pakehas" into the sea: but this was confined strictly to their own council meetings. Thus, after years of argument, speech-making, negotiation, and discussion, the Maoris were on the eve of taking the final step in the establishment of a native monarchy. And the Government allowed the movement to drift away into vicious channels, instead of controlling it. Serious blunders were made about this time by the authorities, and Wiremu Tamihana, who was still open to conversion, was effectually estranged by an act of official stupidity.

It is alleged by historians who sympathise with the King movement that the choice of Potatau Te Whero Whero as the Maori monarch was

politic, inasmuch as he was not ambitious of the dignity, and was therefore, unlikely, like Matene Te Whiwhi, to inspire jealousy in the confederating chiefs, and that, moreover, he offered instead to act as arbitrator in land disputes. Wiremu Tamihana, determined to overcome the old chief's scruples, summoned the tribes of the Waikato nation to meet at Rangiriri in the month of April, and instal their King. Governor Browne recognised the political significance of this "runanga," and resolved to attend it. He therefore set out for the Waikato district (the King Country as it was subsequently called) with Mr. (afterwards Sir) Donald McLean, the Native Secretary, and Mr. Richmond, a Member of the Cabinet. He reached Rangiriri at the same time as Te Whero Whero, in whose presence the leading "rangatiras" made speeches to the Governor. They asked to be authorised "runangas," a European magistrate, and laws adapted to their circumstances. The Governor replied that he would send a magistrate to live in the Waikato district for the purpose of making circuit visits to the various native settlements, and, with the aid of the Maori assessors, administering justice. He further promised to have framed a code of laws applicable to the native requirements. The people assembled at the "runanga" at this assurance cried out "Hurrah," and waved their hats. Potatau Te Whero Whero said that the Governor's words should be his counsel. Colonel Browne then returned to Auckland, hugging the delusion that he had settled the King business effectually. Mr. F. D. Fenton, a well-known solicitor, was sent up as Resident Magistrate for the Waikato and Waipa Districts, and the Governor regarded the affair as ended. In fact, he considered that his offers were a substitute for the proposals of the natives, whereas they regarded His Excellency's action as commendatory and complimentary. They saw nothing contradictory in essence between the declaration of their nationhood under an elective monarch of their own race and the continuance of the Queen's authority in the land, and many of the leading white citizens holding responsible positions in the colony thought similarly. The Governor returned to Auckland, but the "runanga" at Rangiriri was continued. The invited came in fifty canoes, and the conference was inaugurated by the men of the Ngatihaua nation forming four deep in the military fashion, and planting in the centre of a large open space the chosen emblem of Maori sovereignty—a white banner with a red border, and bearing as a device two red crosses symbolical of Christianity, and also the inscription "Potatau, King of New Zealand." About 200 Maoris were present at this ceremony. The Union Jack was hoisted side by side with the new standard, and the speakers emphasised the assurance that the movement for Maori monarchy was in no way a demonstration of disaffection towards England's Queen. Then for several days much talk was indulged in, and the whole party adjourned to Ihunata, a native village on the Manukau, about 8 miles from Auckland, where another "runanga," at which Bishop Selwyn and other clergymen were present,

d. This meeting ended in the acceptance of Potatau Te Whero as King of the new Maori nation, and at the end of the year the made monarch abandoned his settlement at Mangare, on the de of the Manukau River from Onehunga, and went up to live Waikato district among his most loyal and perfervid subjects. aruawahia, the capital of "Maoriland," in the month of April, Te Whero Whero was formally proclaimed King in the presence t 2,000 people, and saluted as "Potatau the First. It is d as a curious fact that his pension continued to be paid up to larch, 1860, or within a few months of his death, which took n the 25th June, 1860, and that even then the Government ted towards his funeral expenses. In May, 1860, a grand ga' was held at Ngaruawahia for the completion of the estab- t of the monarchy. A system of native police, and the nucleus nding army were called into being, a Parliament or Council of was summoned, village "runangas" for the administration of were instituted, and funds were actually got together for the g of a native newspaper. After the death of "Potatau the his son, Matutaera, was proclaimed King by Wiremu Tamihana, the title of "Potatau the Second." In after years he adopted e of Tawhiao, by which he is historically known. For a couple des the King movement was destined to form an important n native affairs

rnor Browne had been, in the meantime, guilty of a particularly act. Events were rapidly making for war, and a certain course edure on the part of the Government did much to precipitate . When Grey came to rule over New Zealand, his first ordin- e was one to regulate the importation and sale of arms to the . This enactment was virtually repealed in 1857. A certain of smuggling had gone on in spite of it. The Government, r, should have spent money and used vigilance in enforcing its ions, instead of adopting the insane course of relaxing them. ult of doing the latter was a rapid increase in the number of d the quantity of powder sold to the disaffected Maoris, who ed many thousand stands of arms and large quantities of ition. Ten years of peace and prosperity had made the natives atively rich through the supply of produce to the Europeans. Tamihana (now henceforth known historically as the "Maori aker") was a shrewd observer of all that went on, and he rtly stated that "every vessel from Australia brought cheap the Maori trade."

rnor Browne paid a visit to the settlement early in the year d declared to the natives that he intended to adopt an entirely icy in the buying of native lands, and to deal at first hand with al claimants, disregardful of tribal rights and the influence of ngatiras." In short, the misguided Governor wanted to enforce glish land system of modern times, and the evolution of

generations, on a race of people whose usages regarding land resembled in a great measure those in vogue among the Irish and Brehon traditions. When the new land policy was inaugurated the Governor, some thirty million acres or more had been purchased from the Maori owners for the purposes of settlement, but not more than a quarter of a million acres were under cultivation. The people of Taranaki district were cramped for room, and looked for territory wherein to expand towards the mouth of the Waitara River. This legitimate desire brought about a condition of affairs favourable to the ignition of the native mind by the spark dropped into it by the Waitara land purchase in 1860. Waitara is a little settlement in the Taranaki district, a section of the North Island where native feeling concerning land purchase had always been especially sensitive. Sufficient territory had been obtained to enable this settlement (Waitara) to expand into a strip of about 20 miles along the sea coast, with an average width of about 7 miles. During his visit to the district, the Governor, therefore, in order to accommodate the settlers, invited the natives to dispose of their surplus land. In the meantime the agitation in favour of the King movement had engrossed public attention in the central districts of the North Island, so that the new trouble brewing on the west coast almost escaped notice until it burst forth in the blaze of war. Friction between the two races in this part of the Island was acute on account of the persistent refusal of the Maoris to part with their lands, the influence of the Anti-land-selling League, under the presidency of Wiremu King, the head chief of the Ngatiawa nation, being actively exercised to discourage all sales of his people's territory. In 1858 the Taranaki settlers had fruitlessly memorialised the General Assembly to set aside the tribal rights, and allow such natives as were willing to dispose of their individual claims in communal lands to do so. Early in 1859 Wiremu King sent a message to the Governor, declaring that no more land should be sold in the district extending from New Plymouth to Mokau, and requesting him, therefore, to entertain no proposal for the purchase of native lands within those limits. It was just after this notification by the great anti-land-selling chiefs that the Governor paid his diplomatic visit to New Plymouth, prepared to carry his new land policy into effect no matter who should oppose him. At a meeting with the natives he stated that he would never consent to the purchase of land which did not carry an undisputed title, but neither would he allow any one to interfere in land sales who had not an interest in the blocks of land under offer. The Maoris are alleged to have misapprehended his meaning, and to have understood that his intention was to start the new land policy by treating with individuals, disregarding the "mana" of the tribal chiefs, and setting aside the tribal rights. However, there was very little misapprehension about the matter, as subsequent events showed that the natives understood him only too well. In response to the Governor's invitation, a native chief named Te Teira, or Taylor,

with his friends and offered the Governor to part with the lands (acres) which they were occupying at Waitara. It appears, ever, that Teira and his adherents had no exclusive right to this of 600 acres, though they occupied it. The land belonged Ngatiawa nation, and was endeared to the people by his- recollections, being their first landing place some twenty-five thirty generations before Areas had been allotted them by their ors for the heads of different families, and divided into sub- ents for individual holders. Teira, however, pressed his offer, Mr. McLean, the Native Secretary, replied on behalf of the ernor that he would buy, provided a good title could be made out. native department and the Governor sent down Commissioners, with Mr. Parris, the land purchaser for the district, spent nearly r in the investigation of Teira's title. After inquiry they decided deedingly that the native vendor's title was good, and that Teira's self had a right to sell the land, and the head chief no right to erfere The sale was, therefore, completed in due course. A fair was paid for the block; and, as Wiremu Kingi threatened war, armed force was sent to occupy it. Then the astute chief of the gatiawa made the disputed block over to the King natives, and he with became their ally. They did not openly declare war against government, but they sent their new protegé numbers of volunteer King men. The Governor, blind to the trend of events, reported to Secretary of State that while he did not fear that Wiremu Kingi would continue to maintain his assumed right, he had made every paration to enforce obedience should he presume to do so. Wiremu ingi did, however, maintain his right, and from this maintenance of mana' sprang the Taranaki war of 1860, which lingered until Jan. 1861, and resulted in the temporary ruin of Taranaki. The land question at Waitara is known historically as Governor Browne's Bad Bargain.

Hostilities broke out early in 1860. On the 20th February, in that year, surveyors were sent out to mark the boundaries. By way of protest, the Maoris directed some of their women to pull up the pegs and cut the chain, though no violence was offered Ten days later, martial law was proclaimed, and a body of troops, under Lieutenant-Colonel Murray, marched to the Waitara block, ten miles from New Plymouth, for the protection of the surveyors. During the night, Kingi's men built a "pa" commanding the road, and stopped an escort. The Governor then issued a manifesto ordering the evacuation of the "pa" on the pain of instant punishment The natives evacuated the "pa," and the soldiers destroyed it. A few days afterwards a party of some seventy natives returned and built a stockade on the disputed block. H.M.S. "Niger" had just arrived with a reinforcement of the 65th Regiment, and, on the 17th March, Colonel Gold conveyed to the front a detachment of artillery and three guns, 210 men of the 65th Regiment, a party from the "Niger," with a rocket tube, twenty mounted volun-

teers, and a company of the Royal Engineers. The Maoris summoned to surrender, but refused, and the troops opened fire shot and shell. This was the firing of the first gun in a war whic Featherstone (the Superintendent of the Province of Wellington) nounced to be unjust and unholy; and which Sir W Martin (the Justice) utterly discountenanced On the night following the a the troops found that the stockade had been abandoned, but the n were entrenching themselves in stronger positions, and were provided with arms and ammunition. The settlers left their homes and, abandoning the open country, took refuge in their town of Plymouth. Their women and children were mostly shipped off t south, the men armed and drilled as a militia. The troops al back on New Plymouth, and the district was left to the Maoris ravaged the whole country side, sweeping away the labours of twenty years with a besom of smoke and flame. The insurgent Nga chief, who had hitherto held aloof, now overtly joined the move while the powerful Ngatiruanui nation also threw in its lot wit malcontents. On the 3rd March, a "pa" on Waireka Hill wa successfully attacked, and the same evening the British forces fell on New Plymouth. Later on fresh detachments of troops arrived Australia, so that, by the end of the year, there were 2,300 men field, including volunteers. One of the most important of the succe events was the attack in June on the Puketakauere, or "L p called from its configuration. In this affair the British suffered of thirty four killed and thirty wounded, while the Maori cas amounted to only six killed and eight wounded. New Plymouth now in a state of close siege, and, although there was a dens near the town, fuel had to be procured from Australia. Major-G Pratt now came over from Melbourne to supersede Colonel Gold command, and brought with him the remainder of the 40th Regi For some time no decisive engagement took place, until the conf Mahoetahi, when the enemy lost thirty four killed and fifty wo while the British casualties were four killed and sixteen wou Taporotu, the rebel leader, was killed in this engagement Th terminated a little later during the progress of the siege of Pukerua a truce being negotiated through the instrumentality of Wiremu hana Tarapipi. It has been computed that this outbreak, before brought to a peaceful conclusion by Sir George Grey, cost the E sixty seven killed and 143 wounded, and most of the latter died of injuries through overcrowding in New Plymouth; while upwards o settlers died through exposure. The total cost of the war to the Im Government was about £500,000; while the colony's expenses stoned by the campaign reached a total of £20,000. The direct of the settlers were estimated to amount to over £150,000.

Sir George Grey landed at Auckland on the 26th September, for a second time to undertake the government of the pro and on the 3rd October following Colonel Gore Browne left the co

The Stafford, or War Ministry, fell in the month of July, 1861, and was succeeded by the Fox, or Peace Ministry. Mr. Fox had been an officer in the Wakefield Land Company, and an ardent agitator for responsible government. He had long been an opponent of Governor Browne's native policy, and now threw in all his influence to aid the new viceroy in obtaining a peaceful settlement. Sir George Grey had a difficult task to perform, for he had not only to contend against the hostility of the Maoris, but also to placate the section of the white population who wished to crush native resistance by an aggressive war. For more than a year the Governor and Premier sought to obtain honourable conditions of peace, but, unfortunately, the Governor had been called in too late, and his "mana" had lost much of its old power. Early in the term of his second Government, Sir George Grey determined that the division of authority between the Governor and his Ministers should be swept away, and that upon native, as well as upon other affairs, the representative of the Queen should rely solely on the advice of his responsible Cabinet. On the 30th May, 1862, Imperial control over Maori legislation was finally abolished. Meanwhile, matters in the Waikato country were very unsettled, and a visit from the Governor had no appreciable effect. In 1863, the Governor left Auckland for Ngaruawahia, and, although he was well received by the Maoris, his announcement that a steamer was coming to trade on the Waikato River only seemed to increase the mistrust with which the natives regarded all advances made by the Government. The still unsettled Waitara land dispute was a constant source of irritation, and even the natives of the King country were divided on the matter. One party, led by Wiremu Tamihana Tarapipi, was in favour of a peaceful settlement, but Wiremu Kingi insisted on the retrocession of the Waitara land, and his cause was warmly espoused by Manga Rewi Manopoto, chief of the Ngatimaniapoto nation. The Governor now caused the title to the land to be carefully examined, and came to the conclusion that it had never been lawfully acquired. In the meantime, a body of natives was in armed occupation of a block of land at Tataraimaka, near New Plymouth, which really belonged to the settlers, and the Maoris refused to leave it until the Waitara block was handed over. The claim of the colony to the Waitara land was removed by proclamation on the 11th May, 1863, but the restitution was somehow delayed, and the Ngatiruanui still refused to leave Tataraimaka. The Governor tried parleying, but without avail, and then resolved on decisive action. At the beginning of March, 1863, His Excellency, accompanied by General Cameron and a strong force of military, set out for Tataraimaka with the intention of re-capturing this block, besides settling the Waitara question. The natives accepted this move as a prelude to war, and Rewi and his supporters at once took action. The police barracks and a newspaper office were seized, and the Resident Magistrate dismissed. Next, a party of soldiers was surprised and killed in the Taranaki district, and the prospect of peace became hopeless. In spite of the issue of the proclamation removing all claim to the disputed

and the withdrawal of the troops therefrom, war had re-commenced, & dragged out its weary length over a period of three years. Sir ge Grey had received notice that the Maoris intended to make an k on Auckland, and resolved to forestall them. On the 12th July ll force under General Cameron occupied a position on the Koheroa ts, overlooking the Waikato River The Maori force was in two ons, one of which, under Manga Rewi Manopoto, occupied the of Hunua, whence many successful attacks were delivered on the al lines. Wiremu Tamihana Tarapipi commanded the other on, which marched down by the course of the Waikato to oppose vasion. On the 17th July, this force attacked an escort of the Regiment, and defeated it, killing four and wounding ten. On orning of the same day, the British troops at Koheroa defeated a detachment. After another slight engagement Cameron con d that his foes were of no mean calibre, and decided to make more dable preparations. On the renewal of hostilities, a series of skir culminated, on the 23rd October, 1863, in the action which has called the "Battle of Bald Hills." During the progress of this ot there were some desperate hand-to-hand encounters between the ns and the soldiers, but, eventually, the native force was driven with a loss of thirty two killed, while great numbers of their ers were also wounded.

the 30th October, General Cameron, who had been provided two bullet proof steamers, one of which was built in Sydney, ded to attack Meremere, but the Maoris evacuated this position, tired to a stronger one at Rangiriri. Here, after a desperate ance, they were forced to capitulate, but King Potatau the Second his general Wiremu Tamihana Tarapipi made their escape. The loss was between fifty and 150 killed, the number of wounded unknown, while 183 were taken prisoners and sent to Auckland. British loss was thirty-five men and two officers killed, and thirteen s and eighty five men wounded. It was now expected that peace d be proclaimed, and the enemy fell back from the King's head ers, and allowed General Cameron to occupy the position without ggle But the expected terms were not proclaimed, and the war renewed. The Maoris were driven from one position to another, eventually made a most heroic stand at Orakau. Here a force of 300 natives under Rewi withstood for three days the attacks of an army of 2,000 men. On the evening of the third day the ammunition was exhausted, so the half-starving natives made a , when the greater part of them were destroyed, but Rewi and a llowers escaped to the hills. The Maori loss was about 200, while British casualties were sixteen killed and fifty two wounded. With duction of Orakau, Maori resistance practically ceased, and Wiremu nana and Rewi retired to the upper waters of the Waikato, whither were not pursued. In this long and dilatory struggle, an able nd and distinguished officers had been fighting with vastly superio

numbers a savage foe whose forces at the very highest estimate did not exceed 2,000, whereas General Cameron had ultimately under his control some 10,000 regulars, and he was assisted by volunteers and militia of about the same numerical strength. Nor was this their only advantage, for the British were armed with Enfield rifles and had artillery, while the Maoris possessed old Tower muskets and shot guns, and the few single guns they had could hardly be called artillery.

The campaign involved the colony in a debt of £3,000,000, besides Imperial claims incurred on account of military expenditure, while settlement and industry received a decided check. The conflict brought absolute ruin to the Ngatihaua nation, for nearly all their land was included in the scheme of general confiscation, while the Ngatimaniapoto race, which had practically provoked hostilities, lost very little territory. The new frontier was delimitated by a line drawn from Raglan on the West Coast through the plains of the Upper Waikato to Tauranga, and the lands confiscated by the Government were occupied by military and volunteer settlers. Like others of his race, Wiremu Tamihana Tarapipi died of consumption in December, 1866, a little over two years after the conclusion of the war.

Although peace once more reigned in the Waikato country, there was still disaffection in the Tauranga district. The natives in this locality, assisted by straggling parties of Waikatos, entrenched themselves in a strong position about three miles from Te Papa. Their stronghold, called the "Gate Pa," was effectively palisaded, and amply protected by rifle pits. Here a British force of 500 men attacked them, the defending Maoris, as usual, being much in the minority. Early in the siege a detachment attempted to storm the Maori citadel, but the attack was repulsed, and the British lost heavily. Shortly afterwards it was discovered that the natives had evacuated the "pa," escaping unnoticed under cover of darkness. In this affair the British casualties amounted to 111 killed and wounded, several of the latter subsequently dying, while the Maori loss was comparatively slight. The natives made their final stand at Te Ranga, about 3 miles inland from the "Gate Pa," and here they were completely crushed, their forces being almost annihilated.

In the meantime the second Taranaki war had been going on. Early in June, 1863, General Cameron successfully stormed a native stronghold on the Katikara River, some 15 miles from New Plymouth. In March, 1864, a force under Major Butler suffered a repulse before a "pa" at Kaitake. A more serious reverse to British arms occurred the following April, when detachments under the command of Captains Lloyd and Page were completely routed by the natives. When the bodies of the slain were recovered they were found to be stripped almost naked, and the heads had been severed from the bodies—an act of savagery hitherto foreign in the warfare between the two races. It was subsequently ascertained that this mutilation was due to the devotees of a new religion known as "Hau-Hauism," though in the

first instance it was called "Pai Marire" by its adherents. This creed originated in the disordered brain of a native named Te Ua, and was an unsavoury compound of Judaism, Christianity, and old Maori tradition. Amongst other strange things its votaries believed that their priests and prophets possessed superhuman powers, while invulnerability in battle could be secured by the utterance of the magic word "Hau," accompanied by mesmeric passes of the hand. The Hau-Haus decapitated their slain enemies, and used the heads to ornament a lofty pole known as the "niu," round which they were accustomed to dance, to the accompaniment of wild incantations. Early in April 1864, they had an opportunity of a practical test of their boasted invulnerability in their attack on the redoubt at Sentry Hill, near New Plymouth. Here the Hau-Haus suffered a serious reverse, and had to fly for their lives, leaving thirty-four of their number dead or dying on the field. Notwithstanding this check, the peculiar superstition spread, and in the country round Wanganui, and on the East Coast, between the Bay of Plenty and Hawke Bay, the Hau-Haus proved particularly troublesome.

It was now fondly imagined by the colonists that with the clearing of the disaffected from the Waikato country, and the subjection of the Tauranga natives, the Maori "mana" had received such a blow that further resistance would be abandoned. However, the Hau-Hau superstition was responsible for a continuance of hostilities, and upon the New Zealand militia devolved the work of extirpating it, but most valuable assistance was given by Ropata Wahawaha, Major Kepa Te Rangi-hiwi-nui, and other friendly chiefs. On one occasion the "friendlies" challenged the Hau-Haus to a pitched battle on the island of Moutua, where, after a desperate engagement, the Hau-Haus were signally defeated, their prophet, Matene, being amongst the slain. The Provincial Government of Wellington later on raised a monument to the memory of their brave allies who had fallen in the encounter. For the remainder of the year 1864 the colony enjoyed a comparative measure of repose, which was hardly interrupted by the escape of 21 Rangiriri and other prisoners from the island of Kawau, near Auckland, in the month of September. In November following the seat of Government was removed from Auckland to Wellington, in consequence of an agitation for a more central position from which to direct the affairs of the colony.

The year 1865 saw the resumption of hostilities on the West Coast. New Zealand at this time contained a very large and expensive Imperial military force, but the brunt of the war fell on the shoulders of the colonial militia, the friendly natives, and the adventurous spirits who came over from Sydney and Melbourne to take sides against a brave but ruthless foe. General Cameron's movements were painfully slow, and this fact, coupled with the tenacity with which he clung to the ocean beach, earned for him from the Maoris the epithet of the "Lame Seagull." Grey's impatience at the General's dilatoriness gave rise to

much acrimonious correspondence between the two chiefs. At length the Governor determined on the bold scheme of himself leading a force to attack the insurgents in a stronghold called the Weweroa "pa." On the 21st July, 1865, he successfully accomplished the reduction of this fastness, and about fifty Hau-Haus were taken prisoners. General Cameron resigned his command of the Imperial troops in the following month, and was succeeded by Major-General Trevor Chute. The Hau Haus were still vigorous on the East Coast, where they committed several atrocious murders, mutilating the bodies of their victims. The great majority, however, of the Maoris were keenly shocked by these horrible acts, and Wiremu Tamihana Tarapipi wrote to Colonel Greer tendering his submission and that of the King Tawhiao. The campaign was now pushed on with much vigour. The conquest of the Opotiki district was completed, while the Waiapu expedition, under Majors Fraser and Biggs, supported by the friendly chiefs Ropata and Mokena, achieved signal success. The strong Hau Hau fortress at Hungahunga roua was reduced, and the insurgents were driven from the "pa" at Waerenga-a-hika. The campaign was brought to a close by a series of brilliant forced marches through the disturbed districts by Major-General Chute, the display of force causing a cessation of hostilities.

Grey's continual conflicts with the authorities rendered his position untenable, and in the month of November, 1868, he was succeeded in the administration by Sir George Ferguson Bowen. In the middle of 1868 the North Island was again convulsed in the turmoils of war by an outbreak of natives, led by Titokowaru, which resulted in what is known as the West Coast campaign. Meanwhile another Hau Hau chief, named Te Kooti, escaped with a band of followers from Chatham Islands, and, landing near Gisborne, by his courage and ability soon found himself at the head of a considerable number of warriors. Titokowaru's band ravaged the Patea district. On the 12th July the garrison at Turuturumokai redoubt was defeated by the Maoris, and Captain Ross and nine men were killed. On the 21st August a British force under Colonel McDonnell attacked and captured the Hau Hau stronghold at Te Ngutu-o-te-manu. Early in September Titokowaru signally defeated the Government forces at Ruaruru, killing nineteen and wounding twenty-five. Shortly afterwards the whites and "friendlies" were defeated at Moturoa. Titokowaru's "mana" was now in the ascendant, and he set forth on the road to Wanganui, carrying murder and rapine through the districts on his line of march. On the 4th November, 1868, Te Kooti and his band suddenly swooped down on the village of Matawhero. The Hau-Haus gave themselves up to indiscriminate butchery, twenty-nine Europeans and thirty-two friendly Maoris being cruelly murdered. When the news arrived the settlers fled in all directions. The women and children in Gisborne were shipped off to Auckland, and the deserted homesteads at Poverty Bay were given up to the flames by the savage Hau-Haus. Te Kooti and his band retired to the bush, to the hill of Ngatopa, murdering and pil-

[illegible] to the war. In this stronghold he was attacked by a combi[illegible] and whites under Ropata and Colonel Whitmo[illegible]. The Hau Haus found their position untenable, and during the ni[illegible] and fled into the forest. Thither they were purs[illegible] Ropata and his followers, and numbers were killed or tak[illegible]; but Te Kooti himself escaped. Meanwhile Kepa h[illegible] signal service in harrying the Hau Haus under Titokowa[illegible]. Lieutenant Gascoigne, his wife, three children and [illegible] were murdered, and the Rev. John Whitely, arriving [illegible] shortly afterwards, met the same fate from the hands of a ba[illegible] Hau Haus. Titokowaru was pursued by Colonel Whitmore a[illegible] to the head of the Wanganui River, but he was allowed [illegible], as the authorities had decided on no further action. [illegible], however, continued to give trouble, and various punitive expe[illegible] were despatched against him, but he was eventually left witho[illegible] molestation, and the colony thenceforward enjoyed comparat[illegible].

In June, 1869, Mr William Fox became Premier, having Mr Vo[illegible] associated with him as Colonial Treasurer. The exhausting war h[illegible] crippled the colony, and the strain upon its resources had be[illegible] almost incessant. Mr. Vogel, in the Session of 1870, initia[illegible] a policy, which he based on the belief that the native difficu[illegible] could be more readily combated by the construction of roads and r[illegible] ways, and by the augmentation of the British population through [illegible] of immigrants, rather than by the old methods of settlement a[illegible] provincial government; and he maintained that the entire colony wou[illegible] be beneficially affected by the stimulating influence of the money h[illegible] meant to carry out the new policy. At this time the Constituti[illegible] originally created by Sir George Grey in 1852, was still in operatio[illegible], though not without occasional friction. Under this measure the colo[illegible] was really a confederation of vestry-officered settlements—a system th[illegible] worked fairly well under the conditions which had developed side by s[illegible] with isolated coastal colonisation, undertaken by divergent interes[illegible]. But its great troubles were questions of ways and means. The provinc[illegible] had to rub along as best they could on the dribblets of revenue that ma[illegible] be spared by the Central Government; but, under the fearful exactio[illegible] of an exhausting war, there was very little money to spare to furni[illegible] forth even dribblets of revenue. In order, therefore, to provide t[illegible] needy provinces with a sure source from which to raise funds, they ha[illegible] from their initiation, been given the virtual control of the Crown lan[illegible] within their borders, and the profits accruing therefrom. Of course, th[illegible] was an inequality of endowment that led to innumerable jealousies a[illegible] much heart-burning. In the South Island, save in Maori-affected N[illegible], land was high-priced, in the war-torn North Island, low-priced; as the revenues of the various provincial districts were relatively large [illegible], according to geographical situation. Already, in 1870, the Ce[illegible]tral Government and the Provincial Government owed something li[illegible]

00 between them. In the case of the former a large amount consisted of a war debt; but the Provinces had, at any rate, a great deal—especially in Canterbury and Otago—on public ed in rendering efficient their system of colonisation. Sir gel came forward with a proposition to centralise expenditure and continuous scheme of public works and immigration with borrowed money. His scheme for borrowing from six to ten f money to be expended on defence, immigration, roads, rail- purchase and settlement of land, and public works generally, t unanimously adopted, and the colony entered upon its new areer with hardly a dissentient voice. The Provinces did not, with wisdom equal to that of its suggester, adopt also the use of his great policy, to wit. that the cost of railways should ed from a public estate created out of the Crown lands through e lines should pass. Here selfishness of a provincial type 6. It enabled the Provinces to retain their control of Crown another five years; but it crippled the public works policy of d made its originator a determined opponent of Provincial nt -which he overthrow some five or six years later with the e immigrants who were, as one result of his policy, pouring ountry in their hundreds, and who ridiculed the idea that a ontaining some five hundred thousand inhabitants, should ne governments in addition to its general Assembly, when the ation that they had just left could manage much more with only one. Mr. Vogel's policy, however, certainly onders. At the end of the year 1870 New Zealand contained population of 248,000, a number representing a three-fold ince the beginning of the Taranaki war, in 1860. The t that date was £464,000; during the succeeding ten years it nded to £1,384,000. Exports and imports showed a corres increment; and land under cultivation, sheep and horned d increased seven-fold. From the initiation of the Vogel and their acceptance by the General Assembly in August, October, 1877, the administration remained in the hands of party, though with seven different Ministerial combinations, asioned a nominal, though not a real change, in the successive nts. During this period the following facts are noteworthy: 0 the public debt amounted to £7,840,000, or some £31 per abitant; in 1877 it had risen to £20,700,000, or £50 per white t; but the borrowed money had, among other things, enabled rnment to construct over a thousand miles of railway, besides g, by State aid, thousands of immigrants, though many came ony without such assistance.

meantime quietness reigned in the native districts; the price d risen: gold was being discovered right and left: and the s advancing with rapid strides. The Maori troubles, too, but over. For three years Te Kooti had been a hunted

fugitive. In the year 1870 the chase was left almost exclusively [illegible] natives themselves, under Ropata, Topia, Henare Tomoana, and [illegible] Te Rangi-hiwi-nui. Ropata and Major Kemp (Kepa) drove him [illegible] district to district backwards and forwards, across and across the [illegible] Again and again he escaped, and again and again the hue and cr[illegible] raised at his heels. He fled through the country lying behind th[illegible] of Plenty to the almost impenetrable forests south of Opotiki. [illegible] his [illegible] of Maraetahi was besieged in March, 1870, by 400 fri[illegible] under Kepa, Topia, and Wi Kingi. After a desperate action, in [illegible] the [illegible] barely with his life, his assailants captur[illegible] [illegible] of his captives, and took prisoners thir[illegible] [illegible] women and children. Of his followers e[illegible] [illegible] Te Kooti fiercely, vengefully pursued, now crep[illegible] [illegible] from lair to lair in the solitude of the [illegible] [illegible] with a little band of some score adh[illegible] [illegible] being successively scattered. His wife [illegible] [illegible] shot in the hand. Often and often we[illegible] [illegible] yards of their quarry. In his wild flight [illegible] [illegible] he was forced to scale snow-clad mountain[illegible] [illegible] of torrents that swept the gorges, to carve [illegible] [illegible] through the tangled growth of the living jungle. [illegible] [illegible] a charmed life, he always evaded the sup[illegible] [illegible] capture. In the wild territory of the savage [illegible] [illegible] his equally bloodthirsty companion, Kereopa [illegible] [illegible] of the Rev. S. C. Volkner, done to deat[illegible] [illegible] at Opotiki. Kereopa, when captured, [illegible] hanged, and the Lutheran missionary, in [illegible] avenged. Emaciated with hunger, feverish with th[illegible] [illegible] want of sleep for fear of capture while he rested [illegible] [illegible] his indefatigable foe, Ropata, and left with hard[illegible] [illegible] Te Kooti betook himself, as a last refuge, to the K[illegible] [illegible] found sanctuary in 1872. He was eventually p[illegible] [illegible] for some twenty years lived a quiet life, after the hunt[illegible] [illegible] the chase, dying in peace, if not in sanctity. He oft[illegible] [illegible] a wish to visit Poverty Bay, the scene of his chief atrocity [illegible] the stern hostility of the settlers caused the Government to prevent [illegible] so.

The chief interests of the wars between the two races, now brought to a termination by Te Kooti's absolute suppression as a factor in rebellion, lies not in the numerical importance of the men engaged in them, so much as in their racial significance, individual heroism, and the peculiar picturesqueness of the arena of conflict. It is, perhaps, true, that there is something surprising in the fact that mobs of ill-armed and partially disciplined savages, often outnumbered by three and four to one, sometimes by as many as ten to one, met and repeatedly defeated army corps of the best armed, best drilled, and best disciplined soldiers of Europe, but it must be remembered that the tactics observed

warfare puzzled and baffled soldiers accustomed to march in
nd to charge in line, and that the New Zealand natives were,
masters in the art of fortification. One who has given the
o small attention considers that out of the many engagements
ook place between the years 1843 and 1870 (excluding the
at Poverty Bay) thirty-seven may be classed as of the first
ce. Out of these the British arms sustained defeat of unmis-
character nine times; while the tenth encounter, that of
was indecisive. Of twenty-seven victories, those of Rangiriri
tau were dearly won. In the double fight at Nukumaru the
he British was greater than that of the enemy, and in the
n the "pa" of Waireka Hill most of the troops had retreated,
d of the British success only from a distance. Six of the
were wholly, or nearly wholly, the work of Maori auxiliaries.
ten years, 1860-70, the cost in lives to the British may be esti-
, to the defeated Maoris at 1,800. There were besides,
ides, thousands of wounded—very many British—and numerous
rom the attendant horrors of warfare, such as disease, over-
, exposure, hardships and famine.

ative difficulty was, however, melting away with a rapid disap-
of the natives themselves. In 1869 the Maori affairs passed
hands of a really capable Minister for Native Affairs, the
terwards Sir) Donald McLean, who, from the beginning of
the end of 1876, took the almost absolute control of the
nt policy in its dealings with and directions of Maori questions.
t influence of this man with the "friendlies, the colonists
d the Maori aid, so actively exercised against Te Kooti in
sion of the Hau-Hau fanatics. But McLean made his real
s a Minister for War, but as a man who placed a permanent
peace between the two races on a true basis. For native
aid liberally by skilful and profitable land purchase, by
spect which their position demanded to the chiefs, and by
e people and easy indulgence of their childishness. The
s and touchy natives of the interior of the King country
lest. Elsewhere his influence was all predominant, and
nt management the Maoris, after the war, proved fairly
vilised usage and British legal methods.

us gold discoveries which had been made were not with
influence upon the new era of prosperity opening before
n 1861 gold had been discovered in the provincial district
me (the period of the Waitara war) when the European
not number more than some 80,000. But rumours of
the precious metal in the mountains and gullies of
t had long been persistent. From 1857 to 1860 some
had been won in the province of Nelson. In the
Gabriel Read, while prospecting in a gully at Taupeka,
ncing evidence of a good alluvial field, and dug out

£1 per man for the right to seek for gold whose existence was merely assed at. This short-sighted policy put off the opening up of the Coromandel Gold-field until 1875, though years before this the shores of the Hauraki Gulf had been worked with system and profit. The gold fields of New Zealand are, however, no longer exploited by individual diggers. To-day so many costly scientific and mechanical processes are called into requisition to win the precious metal from its matrix, that capital is required and the combined effort of companies necessitated. The approximate gold yield of the Colony up to date is set down at the value of £54,500,000.

One singular and noteworthy characteristic of the gold fever days in New Zealand was the orderly and law abiding manner in which the search for the precious metal was conducted. There was little extravagance or excess, few riots—such dual encounters only as are common in any collection of adventurous spirits—and but one gang of bushrangers like the Burgess gang.

Besides gold, New Zealand possesses many valuable minerals, though the most curious of these is undoubtedly kauri gum, of which over £2,000,000 worth has been raised in the Colony since 1853. It was, however, worked long before by the Maoris, who found it more profitable to collect kauri gum than to engage in the wars of Hone Heke against British supremacy. At the present time there are about 7,000 Europeans and Maoris engaged in gum-digging, of whom some 1,500 are Austrians from Dalmatia.

Sir George Ferguson Bowen's term of office as Governor of New Zealand extended from the 5th February, 1868, to the 19th March, 1873. He was succeeded by Sir George Alfred Arney, the Chief Justice of the Colony, as Administrator from the 21st March to the 6th June of the same year, pending the arrival of Governor Bowen's successor, Sir James Fergusson, Bart., P.C., who was just fresh, as in the case of Sir George Grey, from the Governorship of South Australia. Sir James Fergusson governed the Colony of New Zealand from the 6th June, 1873, to the 3rd December, 1874, when he in turn gave place to the Marquis of Normanby.

In the meantime affairs political were culminating towards the accomplishment of Vogel's dream—namely, the abolition of the Provincial Governments and the control of the Crown lands by the Central Government. The Colony was at rest, good prices prevailed, much gold was won, and landed estate advanced rapidly in value. Especially was the last mentioned condition of prosperity the case in the province of Canterbury, where the system of free selection without limitation of area or occupation attracted the speculative buyers. A "boom" in Canterbury lands set in, and hundreds of thousands of acres were bought from the Provincial Government at the fixed price of £2 per acre and resold at, or held for, a rise.

The revenue of the Provincial Council was greater than it knew how to expend, even extravagantly. Vogel saw his opportunity, and

appealed to the old Centralist Party to crush the provinces; vinces, particularly Otago and Auckland, resolved to make a for their old autonomy. In the pleasant islet of Kawau, ne Auckland, quietly resided Sir George Grey, deep in the stu traditions and antiquities. Now, the old Constitution that to destroy had been practically Grey's creation, and he burne nation in the solitude of his island retreat that sacrilegious h be laid upon the instrument by which he had made Ne nation. Forth he came from his studies in 1875, and enter of politics. With wonderful vigour he threw himself into mounted the public platform, and spoke with an eloquen his hearers by storm. They heard him with admiration, h with surprise, as no one had hitherto suspected the orator in the able explorer, the shrewd statesman, diplomatist, The fight was vehement on both sides. The Centralists Major Harry Atkinson, who had won a high place in publ an officer of bush fighters in the many wars with rebel Mao had greatly distinguished himself on several occasions at Ta leapt at once to the command of his party. Under his le Provincialists were beaten, the Crown lands passed unde of the Central Government, and the functions of the Provin were handed over to Local Boards and organisations.

Julius Vogel left the Colony in 1876, and in the month in the year following, Sir George Grey succeeded in administration led by Major Harry Atkinson, which had itself the title of "Continuous." The new Premier formed mainly composed of young men of great ability; and appe first time to the democracy of the Colony from a platform advanced and, for the period, essentially socialistic. At th on every available opportunity afterwards, he advocate Parliaments, the principle of one man one vote, a direct l a land policy based upon Crown leases rather than upon F and having especial regard to the restriction of the area t man might require. He was, indeed, the direct forerunn Ballance; but though he won office on the strength of h could not carry it into law. Among his colleagues was Jo Minister of Justice and for Native Affairs, the first of native elected a representative of the people to the Parliament of N Sir George Grey's Ministry was not of long duration, nor was brilliant. It ended its career, at the early age of two ye its chief being deposed from the leadership of his party followers. One of the causes of the collapse of the Grey Mi financial depression which visited the Colony at about this t fell all round, especially of wool and wheat, and the output c to keep up to the average of former years. There had, too, rush for land investments; much money had been borrowe estate, and to establish speculative businesses: and there

strong reaction in prices. The increasing financial tension brought to the ground many a business house of apparent commercial solidity, and it was not before 1894 that things took a genuine turn for the better. It is noteworthy of Sir George Grey's democratic programme that, though he himself failed to carry any one of his favoured propositions into law he had the satisfaction of seeing them all placed upon the Statute Book (some by his friends, some by his opponents) save one, —the election, by the people, of the Governor of the Colony.

A feature of New Zealand politics was the long existence enjoyed by what has been termed the "Continuous Ministry." It came into office about the year 1869, and may be said to have ceased in the month of January 1891. Out of a period of twenty-one and a half years it held office for some sixteen or seventeen. Sir Edward Stafford turned it out but for a month only, in 1872; Sir George Grey for two years, 1877-9, Sir Robert Stout for three years, 1884-7. The "Continuous Ministry" represented a shifting series of combinations of politicians by which the Cabinet was modified, every now and again, without ever being intrinsically changed. It came into being under Sir William Fox, with provincial and mildly democratic sympathies. It quarrelled with the provinces, and killed them; and then it became conservative—of the New Zealand type of conservatism. Its leaders were Fox, Vogel, and McLean—1869-72; Fox left it in 1872; Major Atkinson joined it in 1874, Vogel left it in 1876; McLean died in 1877. Put out of office by Sir George Grey, it was once more led, for a short time, by Sir William Fox; it came back to power in 1879 as a Hall-Atkinson-Whitaker combination; Hall retired in 1881, but Atkinson and Whitaker continued to direct it to the end. There is another thing to be noticed in connection with the Parliament of New Zealand. For about three decades the Maoris have sent four members of their own race to the House. When speaking they ordinarily use an interpreter; despite which, when discussing affairs concerning their own countrymen, they often display great fluency and become really eloquent.

In the year 1864 the Government had confiscated more land than the settlers could then utilise, and a portion of the alienated territory remained unoccupied. In the province of Taranaki, the unoccupied land fell into the possession of its original Maori owners, who built villages, cultivated farms, and exercised all the other rights of ownership again. A promise had also been given to the natives of Taranaki that the Government would give them a certain sum per acre as a ransom for the confiscation of their lands. Time passed on, the papers remaining undisturbed, and actual ownership and exclusive occupation were at times somewhat offensively asserted. Moreover, religious fanaticism gave cohesion to the Maoris who occupied the confiscated lands and caused them to gain adherents from many places till a large settlement became established in the Ngatiruanui country, a place called Parihaka, under the leadership of a Maori prophet or dreamer named Te Whiti. For some time it appeared as if the

tively New Zealand has been a country of experiments. As
s the year 1869 an Act was passed enabling the Government
life assurances and annuities on the security of the Colonial
and the Government Insurance Department is now a
institution of the State. In 1873 a Public Trust Office was
by which it was sought to insure the faithful discharge of
relieve individuals from the responsibilities of trusteeship,
bstitute a permanent officer of the Civil Service in place of
Notwithstanding the lavishness of its public works policy,
nment of the colony always manifested a reluctance to divert
revenues from the ordinary channels of public expenditure to
schemes of coastal defence. New Zealand was more back-
his respect than any of her sister Australian colonies. It is,
largely due to the exertions of one of the Colony's Governors,
r F. D. Jervois, that much was done to remedy this condition
Soon after his arrival in the colony, in January, 1883, His
y made a tour of inspection of the coastal defences, with a
he elaboration of a homogeneous scheme. He subsequently,
s and by personal influence aroused public attention to the
h the colony would run in the event of a European war, and
direction the chief ports have been strongly fortified and
with effective battery and torpedo defences. As a direct
the native wars, there is, and has always been, a large military
in the population, and New Zealand is now one of the best
of the Australasian colonies, either for putting down an in
that might arise within its own borders, or for repelling an
a foreign enemy.

riod marked by the Governorship of Sir William F. D. Jervois
ably the worst, in a financial sense, that the Colony had
ven. Prices of staple produce continued to fall year after
ose who had purchased landed estate with borrowed money
ulative rise, one after another failed; next came the turn of
ngagers, and then that of the minor financial companies, whose
holdings were unsaleable, and whose funds were exhausted.
disaster was placed on the shoulders of the Vogel policy of
ks and internal expansion: but it was really due to several
es. The truth is, that it was the private indebtedness of
s at a time of slump after a period of inflation of values,
with an appalling fall in the price of raw products, rather than
ing of borrowed money on reproductive works, that plunged
so long and so deeply in the mire of financial difficulties.
l life during this period became chiefly the history of a series
nts for keeping the Treasury from absolute depletion, and
the settlement of the land. The industrial outlook in New
as probably never worse than in the years 1885 and 1886.
of retrenchment had been tried before with some results of
ation. It was tried again. The salaries of the Governor

[illegible] the Ministers were diminished, as also were the size and the pay [illegible] House of Representatives: the Customs duties were raised, and [illegible] on property were increased. The result of these exertions [illegible] financial balance was a measure of strained but solvent succ[illegible] to the Hall, Atkinson, and Whitaker Ministry, wh[illegible] upon to meet the emergency.

[illegible] provinces had their own Governments, they had also th[illegible] Laws. With these the General Assembly of the colony [illegible] With the abolition of the provinces, the management [illegible] of the central parliament [illegible] ordinances had to be repea[illegible] secured, as land was un[illegible] representing the method[illegible] different Provincial Counc[illegible] brought together in a cohere[illegible] that one Land Act c[illegible] made equally applicable [illegible] the Statute Books of 18[illegible] importance engaging the att[illegible] the one central questi[illegible] ship thereto, first con[illegible] ship, and Governme[illegible] by conquest, by p[illegible]

[illegible] was the repurchase by [illegible] consent. Sir Geo[illegible] enough to see it become la[illegible] this principle. But Mr Jo[illegible] and resolute of the Ministers [illegible] Party, carried it into law, a[illegible] ability, which constitutes an effecti[illegible] portfolio. Under this law £700,0[illegible] estates, or portions of estates, [illegible] The area bought was 187,000 acres. Some of th[illegible] assigned to occupation. On the rest, 2 [illegible] settled paying a rental which represents 5·2 p[illegible] land to the Government, while 700 new hou[illegible] £100,000 expended in improvements.

[illegible] Hon. John Ballance held the portfolio of Minister [illegible] was one of intense financial depression, and hundre[illegible] artisans and labourers wandered about the country, in [illegible] Zealand, looking for work. Then it was that this mo[illegible] of all New Zealand's statesmen made a courageous attempt [illegible] difficulty by placing the workless upon the so[illegible] of them producers. Blocks of Crown land were taken [illegible] parts of the colony. These were divided into allotments [illegible] to 30 acres, and let to the village settlers on perpetual lease [illegible]

4 to 5 per cent. on the prairie value of the lands. Some
rimental farms collapsed, others succeeded. According to
a, the village settlers and their families occupy about
in allotments of an average size of about 24 acres. About
been advanced them by the Government, of which sum
urned some £3,000. The Government has, however, been
in rent and interest, and the improvements made by the
eir allotments are valued at about £110,000.

n F. D. Jervois' term of office ended on March 22nd, 1889,
f Justice, Sir James Prendergast, was thereupon called to
Administrator till the 2nd May of the same year, when
nslow arrived to take up the reins of Government. It was
st-named gentleman's term of office that the disruption of
nous Ministry" (representing the Conservatives) was ac-
partly by radical persistence in attack, and partly by
ffection. Sir Frederick Whitaker was fast sinking under
ars, Sir John Hall was too ill to take office; and then fell
blow of all—Sir Harry Atkinson the fighting leader died
harness in the Legislative Council in 1892.

f Onslow resigned his office on the 24th February, 1892,
of Administrator of the Colony, was again discharged by
Prendergast until the arrival of the Earl of Glasgow, who
duties of Governor on the 7th June, 1892. During the
e Liberal Party became disrupted on the liquor question,
factions ranging themselves under the respective leader
Seddon and Sir Robert Stout. A duel between these
en ensued, but was ended by the retirement from public
Robert Stout in 1898. The liquor question, indeed, had
strangely complicating political matters in New Zealand -
ever, doing so at the present time. In 1893, the prohibi
; led by Sir Robert Stout, and organised outside the House
ymen named Isitt and Walker, thought the time opportune
demands to the uttermost. John Ballance, the Premier
d, and his party, on the eve of a general election, was sup
horibund. The Ministry tried a measure of progressive
ad sacrificed all their enactments—land, labour, and other
ing the Female Franchise Bill, to the exigencies of the
passed a Local Option Bill. This hasty measure was of
ative character, and had to be expanded and amended in
96. It is admitted that, as it now stands, though it may
most ardent of the prohibitionists satisfaction, it never
ces a complete and elaborate system of local option
enses fall in with the death of the triennial parliaments
y; and the licensing poll takes place on the same day
al elections, at which every male and female over the
ay vote. The licensing districts occupy the same areas as
districts, and the poll decides, by a majority of votes in

each district, to retain all existing licenses, to reduce their nu[illegible] to abolish them altogether; but in order to carry the article [illegible] of licenses in any electoral and licensing district, a m[illegible] three to two is necessary. The Act does not provide for comp[illegible] [illegible] option polls have been held under the measure, the [illegible] in the closing of about seventy houses, and in totally pro[illegible] the retail of liquor in the Clutha district. The second genera[illegible] [illegible] was held in December, 1896, when for the first time [illegible] on the same day as the parliamentary elections, and, a[illegible] [illegible], the prohibitionist vote was nearly doubled. The [illegible], was unexpected. The prohibitionists were everywh[illegible] [illegible], except in the Clutha district, by the moderate party.

During the Earl of Onslow's administration, about the yea[illegible] the organised Labour Party made an assault on the political cit[illegible] practically carried it by storm. New Zealand had passed thro[illegible] [illegible] days of pioneering, whaling, sealing, [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], and mammoth pastoral enterprise, when acres were m[illegible] men were few. A new civilisation had grown up fashioned [illegible] [illegible] lines, and ripe with a heavy harvest of [illegible] trouble[illegible] [illegible] had entered upon a [illegible] period, [illegible] [illegible] labour trouble, [illegible] at first and [illegible] [illegible] organising and [illegible] [illegible] power. Wh[illegible] [illegible] was complete, the Labour [illegible] found its voi[illegible] [illegible] to [illegible] [illegible] State. The go[illegible] [illegible] of new con[illegible] [illegible] Somewhere [illegible] [illegible], thous[illegible] [illegible] heart of the [illegible] [illegible] other the [illegible] that it me[illegible] [illegible] sought [illegible] [illegible] Australasian C[illegible] [illegible] New Zealand. Th[illegible] [illegible] long been li[illegible] [illegible] ultra-democratic [illegible] into line wi[illegible] [illegible] enough to indi[illegible] [illegible] experiment[illegible] [illegible] property. [illegible] [illegible] eagerly the [illegible] [illegible] the functions [illegible]

[illegible] that the [illegible] of [illegible] though containing [illegible] [illegible], and had [illegible] [illegible] to widen the franchise — [illegible] in obtaining the one-ma[illegible] [illegible] Parliamentary election. In the year 1889 [illegible]

se was the head of the Opposition in Parliament. This man, y fairly lay claim to the title of statesman, was by profession aust; but he had sprung from the people, and knew their needs r weaknesses, their strength, and their ways of life and methods ght. On the 24th January, 1891, John Ballance took office as r, though the elections (which in New Zealand take place on one d already pronounced their verdict on the 5th December of the ng year.

legislation initiated by Ballance, and continued by the Seddon ies (in reality they are but one Administration), during the past ars or so, may be divided into enactments relating to Finance, stitutional Reform, and to Labour. The principal source of xation was the Property Tax. It consisted of a penny in the e capital value of every citizen's possessions, less his debts and ion of £500; and was a rough-and-ready method of raising . It was, however, inequitable, as it taxed stock that was tly unmarketable—an exaction that fell upon values—while as such, were untouched. Moreover, years of high returns were treated alike. The tax did not discriminate between asons and bad, and Ballance determined to introduce a more e system of revenue-raising.

Property Tax was abolished, and its place taken by a progressive ax and a progressive Income Tax. These passed both Houses latter conflict; and a light Absentee Tax also became law. Land cumbered with an Income Tax, and holders of less than £500 of bare land value pay no Land Tax. On all land above that ld in the £ is paid, less amount of mortgage, the tax in respect ch is paid by the advancer of the loan. An additional graduated ax on holdings worth £5,000—at that stage it is ½d. The tax progressive steps till, on estates assessed at £210,000, it is 2d. £. Thus, under the graduated and simple Land Tax together, lders of the largest areas pay 3d. in the £; while the small whose holding is worth less than £500, pays nothing. The ple tax brings in about £80,000 per annum; the 1d. in the £ Tax about £200,000; and the Income Tax about £70,000. The ns incomes less than £300 per annum pay nothing. Between and £1,300 the tax is 6d. all round, over the latter sum it rises shilling. Joint Stock Companies pay a shilling on all income. e law authorises local governing bodies to levy their rates on nd values. The Bill passed the House of Representatives three and was three times rejected by the Legislative Council. It law in 1896. The adoption of the principle permitted by it is ded about by various restrictions, but some fourteen local bodies voted in its favour. A Bill that found much favour with the small farmer is the Advances to Settlers Act of 1894. Under it Board may lend Government money on leasehold and freehold , but not on urban or suburban lands, unless occupied for

[illegible] The loan may amount to three-fifths [illegible] and one-half when leased [illegible] per cent., but the borrower pays [illegible] yearly instalments, the extra 1 [illegible] repayment of the principal. Mortgag[illegible] principal in seventy three half year[illegible] under they can do so. About a million [illegible] under the Act.

[illegible] New Zealand is nominated, not electi[illegible] number of members. Prior to 18[illegible] At that time, however, the period [illegible] was reduced to seven years. [illegible] Party was almost altogether [illegible] in 1862, Ballance requested [illegible] twelve fresh councillors. [illegible] There was then about to be [illegible] matter remained in abeyance. On [illegible] assumed the governorship he [illegible] to the fresh appointments as did his [illegible] that it was the Governor's duty [illegible] ministers in this as well as in other [illegible] not think so. The matter was then, [illegible] to the Colonial Office, and Lord Ripon [illegible] the Premier. Twelve new councillors were [illegible]. The submission of this question to the [illegible] was attacked by the Conservatives. [illegible] Sir George Grey, the democrat; but it was highly [illegible] Representatives, and by the people generally. [illegible] had much at heart was the carrying out [illegible] one man one vote. He did not live to see it [illegible] Electoral Bill was thrown out twice [illegible] went through only some months after his death. [illegible] man has not only one vote, but only one registra[illegible] have his name upon more than one roll. The right [illegible] was conferred upon shearers, as it had been previously [illegible] that the franchise was extended to women. [illegible] Electoral Bill passed by the narrowest majority [illegible] sections. There was a rush of women to [illegible] and then the unexpected happened: they did not [illegible] a conservative ticket, their vote, on the contrary [illegible] the Liberal Party in power.

The Statute Laws of New Zealand are twenty six in number, and [illegible] Acts and portions of Acts. Some twenty [illegible] passed during the last seven years. One of these [illegible] Act, worked in conjunction with a law for the [illegible] and a thorough-going system of factory [illegible] essential accidents without leading to litigation.

Truck Act declares the right of every wage-earner to be paid promptly, in full, in current coin, and to have an individual choice in the expenditure of wages. Two more enactments deal with the earnings of the workmen of contractors and sub-contractors, make them a first charge on the contract money, give workers employed on works of construction a lien thereon, and compel a contractor's employer to hold back at least one-fourth of the contract money for a month after the completion of a contract, unless he shall be satisfied that all workmen employed have been paid in full. A Wage Attachment Act limits, without entirely abolishing, a creditor's right to obtain orders of court attaching forthcoming earnings. The Factories Act of 1894, slightly amended by an amending Act in 1896, consolidates and improves upon no less than four previous measures, two of which have been passed by the Ballance Government. Under this Act all workshops, where two or more persons are occupied, are declared to be factories, must register, pay an annual fee, and submit to inspection at any hour of the night or day: a master and servant working together count as two hands, the inspectors have absolute power to demand such cubic space, ventilation and sanitary arrangements generally as they may consider needful to preserve life and health. The factory age is 14; there are no half-timers. In New Zealand, primary education is not only free, but compulsory: any child under 15, therefore, must undergo an education test before being allowed to go to factory work. Children under 16 years must be certified by an inspector to be physically fitted for factory work. Women and children under 18, may not work before 7·15 a.m., or after 6 p.m., nor more than forty-eight hours per week. All factory workers (time or piece) are entitled to the half-holiday, after 1 p.m. on Saturday—in the case of time workers, without reduction from wages. The rates of pay and hours of labour have to be publicly notified and returned to inspectors. Overtime may be allowed by inspectors on twenty-eight days a year, but overtime pay must not be less than 6d. per hour extra. Even the huts in which the nomadic shearer lives while working on a sheep station are placed under the operation of this Act.

The Labour legislation of the Ballance Ministry dealt with the question of the disabilities of trades unionists, the supervision of accounts registry offices, the incorporation of Trades Unions, the creation of Boards of Conciliation and a Central Court of Arbitration, the passing of a Shipping and Seamen's Act, and so on, all framed in the widest spirit of democracy.

The Earl of Glasgow left the Colony on the 6th February, 1897, and Chief Justice Sir James Prendergast administered affairs from that date to the arrival of the Earl of Ranfurly. During the Record Reign festivities, the Premier, the Hon. Richard Seddon, and some of the New Zealand troops were present in London, with other Australasian Premiers and troops, and took part in the festivities. One of the Universities made him a Doctor of Laws, and Her Majesty made him a Privy

Councillor. Sir George Grey, who for a great portion of his career had been so intimately connected with the Colony's affairs, died in England in 1898, the news of his death causing a feeling of profound sorrow throughout New Zealand. In the same year also occurred the death of Bishop Selwyn, of Melanesia. On the 1st November, 1898, another addition to New Zealand's democratic legislation became law, in the form of an Old Age Pensions Act. Up to the 31st March, 1899, the total number of pensions granted under the Act was 7,487, representing a yearly payment of £128,082, the average pension being about £17 2s. Early in 1899 the Colony lost another of its foremost politicians in the person of Sir Julius Vogel, who died on the 13th March of that year.

In the following table will be found a list of the successive Ministries which have held office in New Zealand from the inauguration of Responsible Government up to the date of publication of this volume:

No. of Ministry	Name.	Date of Appointment.	Date of Retirement.	Duration.	
				Months.	Days.
1	Bell-Sewell	7 May, 1856	20 May, 1856	0	13
2	Fox	20 May, 1856	2 June, 1856	0	13
3	Stafford	2 June, 1856	12 July, 1861	60	10
4	Fox	12 July, 1861	6 Aug., 1862	12	25
5	Domett	6 Aug., 1862	30 Oct., 1863	14	24
6	Whitaker-Fox	30 Oct., 1863	24 Nov., 1864	12	25
7	Weld	24 Nov., 1864	16 Oct., 1865	10	22
8	Stafford	16 Oct., 1865	28 June, 1869	44	12
9	Fox	28 June, 1869	10 Sept., 1872	38	13
10	Stafford	10 Sept., 1872	11 Oct., 1872	1	1
11	Waterhouse	11 Oct., 1872	3 Mar., 1873	4	21
12	Fox	3 Mar., 1873	8 April, 1873	1	5
13	Vogel	8 April, 1873	6 July, 1875	26	28
14	Pollen	6 July, 1875	15 Feb., 1876	7	9
15	Vogel	15 Feb., 1876	1 Sept., 1876	6	16
16	Atkinson	1 Sept., 1876	13 Sept., 1876	0	12
17	Atkinson	13 Sept., 1876	15 Oct., 1877	13	2
18	Grey	15 Oct., 1877	8 Oct., 1879	23	23
19	Hall	8 Oct., 1879	21 April, 1882	30	13
20	Whitaker	21 April, 1882	25 Sept., 1883	17	4
21	Atkinson	25 Sept., 1883	16 Aug., 1884	10	22
22	Stout-Vogel	16 Aug., 1884	28 Aug., 1884	0	12
23	Atkinson	28 Aug., 1884	3 Sept., 1884	0	6
24	Stout-Vogel	3 Sept., 1884	8 Oct., 1887	37	5
25	Atkinson	8 Oct., 1887	24 Jan., 1891	39	16
26	Ballance	24 Jan., 1891	1 May, 1893	27	7
27	Seddon	1 May, 1893			

PARLIAMENTS.

FROM the nature and composition of the population of Australia at and for some time after its first settlement, the government and direction of affairs naturally rested in the hands of the Governor alone, and it was not until the year 1824, during the time of Sir Thomas Brisbane, that any attempt was made to provide the Governor with nominated advisers. In that year the first Legislative Council was appointed, consisting of six gentlemen, of whom five held the principal civil positions in the colony, the sixth being Mr. John Macarthur, the pioneer of the Australian wool industry. The first Act of Parliament ever passed in Australia was a measure dealing with the currency, in 1824. Four more members were added to the Council in the following year, by Governor Darling, and further additions were made from time to time. On the 6th June, 1838, the public were first admitted to hear the debates, for up to that time even the representatives of the Press had been excluded; thenceforth the proceedings were more or less fully reported.

Until 1843 the members of the Legislative Council were all nominated by the Governor, but in that year the principle of election was introduced, in conjunction with that of nomination. The nominated members were twelve in number, six being official and six non-official. The elected members comprised a number of men whose names have become historic, such as W. C. Wentworth, William Bland, William Lawson, Charles Cowper, Terence Aubrey Murray, W. H. Suttor, Francis Lord, Richard Windeyer, Alexander Macleay, Roger Therry, Charles Nicholson, and John Dunmore Lang, the two last mentioned being among the representatives of the Port Phillip district, now known as Victoria. Mr. Alexander Macleay was the first Speaker of this body, succeeded by Sir Charles Nicholson in 1846.

Partial representation in the Legislature did not altogether satisfy the colonists, for as far back as the year 1845 the question of Responsible Government was publicly discussed. The agitation, once awakened, was never allowed to slumber, and aided by a vigorous and outspoken Press, as well as by the talented oratory of some of the patriotic members of the Legislature, it continually became more active until in the year 1855 the Imperial Parliament passed a measure to sanction the new Constitution that the colonists sought. On the 22nd May, 1856, the first Australian Parliament under Responsible Government was opened

Sir William Denison in Sydney. It consisted of a nominated Upp
and the Legislative Council, the number of members of wh
ultimately fixed, and a Legislative Assembly, consisting of fif
members, of whom Sir Daniel Cooper was chosen the fi
The first Ministry consisted of Sir Stuart Alexander Dona
Colonial Secretary and Premier; Mr. Thomas Holt, Colon
Sir William Manning, Attorney-General; Mr. J. B. Darva
Mr G. R. Nichols, Auditor-General: and Mr W
Representative of the Government in the Legislati
That period the principles upon which the governme
South Wales is based have never altered, though there ha
changes in the details. Various amendments of the Electo
have taken place from time to time, by which the number
in the Legislative Assembly has been largely increase
changes have taken place in the direction of the removal
and the extension of the liberties of the people. The Leg
now numbers seventy-eight members, and the tenure of
Council is for life. The only qualification required of membe
shall be 21 years of age, and natural-born or naturali
The qualification for a member of the Assembly is the hold
of land. Members of the Lower House receive a remuner
£300 a year, but members of the Council are unpaid. Fre
passes, tram are received by members of both Houses.
The Electoral Act, assented to on the 13th June, 1893, remodelled
the electoral system of New South Wales. The number of member
Assembly is fixed at 125, and the colony is divided into 12
electorates. No elector can have more than one vote, or, in
fact, the "one man one vote" principle is enforced. Eve
claiming to vote must see that his name is inscribed on th
roll, and must provide himself with a document called a
certificate; without the production of which he cannot demand
vote. The suffrage is manhood, the only conditions being twelv
months' residence in the colony in the case of an immigrant, and thre
months' residence in the electoral district in which the right to vote
claimed. In the case of removal from one district to another, th
qualification period is reduced to one month, and the elect
retains his old district until he has acquired the month's residen
qualification in the district to which he has removed. In 1896 th
vote was extended to the Police Force. The duration of Parliamen
is limited to three years. There have been seventeen Parliaments i
New South Wales, the average existence of which has been two yea
three months and five days. At the general election for the eighteenth
Parliament, which took place on the 27th July, 1898, there were
316,820 electors on the roll, 316,820 of whom were in 122 contested
electorates. Of the latter, 178,717 exercised their right to vote
representing 56·41 per cent. of the electors enrolled. It must be pointe
out, however, that the number of names enrolled is largely in excess

the number of electors entitled to vote, and that the true proportion would be about 64·75 per cent.

The example of New South Wales was not without effect on the other Australasian colonies. Victoria, after its separation from New South Wales, was legislated for by a Council, some of the members of which were nominated and others elected; but on the 21st November, 1856, the first Parliament under the new Constitution of the Colony was opened. This Constitution differed from that of the parent Colony in that the Legislative Council as well as the Assembly was elective; it consisted of thirty members, while there were fifty-eight in the Lower House. Mr. W. C. Haines was the first Premier. There are now forty-eight members in the Council, and ninety-five in the Assembly. Members of the Upper House must be of the full age of 30 years, and for one year previous to the election have possessed a freehold estate of the value of £100 per annum, free of encumbrance. The tenure of office is six years, and there is no remuneration attached to the position. Electors must possess a £10 freehold, or be lessees, assignees, or occupying tenants of property rated at not less than £25 per year. Graduates of British or Colonial Universities, legal and medical practitioners, clergymen, certified school masters, military and naval officers, and matriculated students of the Melbourne University are entitled to the franchise. Members of the Assembly must be 21 years of age, natural-born or naturalised subjects, and have been resident in the colony for two years. The reimbursement is £300 per annum, with a free railway pass. Three years is the limit of the duration of a Parliament. The suffrage is practically manhood, with residence in the Colony of twelve months' duration. There have been sixteen complete Parliaments in Victoria under the present Constitution, the average duration of each being two years and five months. The general election for the seventeenth Parliament took place in October, 1897. There were at that time 254,155 electors enrolled, of whom 225,000 were in eighty-two contested constituencies. Of these, 158,225, or 70·32 per cent., voted.

Tasmania, on its separation from New South Wales at the end of 1825, was provided with a nominated Legislative Council, under which it was governed for some thirty years. Following the lead of their neighbours, the colonists of this island also agitated for a Constitution, which was eventually granted to them, and came into force on the 2nd December, 1856. Tasmania now possesses a Legislative Council and a Legislative Assembly, both of which are elective. The Council consists of eighteen members, who hold their seats for six years, three members, or one-sixth of the whole number, retiring every year. In the case of *ad interim* elections, the incoming member holds his seat only as long as his predecessor would have held it. Members must be 30 years of age, and natural-born or naturalised subjects. Judges of the Supreme Court, clergymen (except Ministers of the Crown), and Government contractors are disqualified from sitting in either Upper or Lower House. Members

of both Houses receive a reimbursement of expenses, which at t[illegible] [illegible] per annum. Electors for the Co[illegible] [illegible] of £10 per annum freehold or [illegible] [illegible] professional and educational qua[illegible] [illegible] There are thirty eight [illegible] [illegible] must be 21 years of age and [illegible] The duration of the Assembl[illegible] [illegible] Naturalisation or naturalised adult [illegible] [illegible] term of residence in [illegible] [illegible] Parliament expired by eff[illegible] [illegible] The actual term of existence of T[illegible] [illegible] months and sixteen d[illegible] [illegible] Parliament, which took pl[illegible] [illegible] electors on the roll. Of the[illegible] [illegible] The number who [illegible] [illegible] By the Constitution Amendmen[illegible] [illegible] member of either House of Parli[illegible] [illegible] shall be capable of sitting as [illegible] [illegible] of Legislature in Tasmania.

[illegible] the other Australian colonies, w[illegible] [illegible] of appointment to the Legislative [illegible] [illegible] the boon of adding elected members [illegible] [illegible] Government was granted to the [illegible] [illegible] Parliament under the new order of things [illegible] [illegible] the following year. The South Australi[illegible] [illegible] Legislative Council of twenty-four membe[illegible] [illegible] fifty-four. Both Houses are elected by th[illegible] [illegible] Council retire every three years, but are el[illegible] [illegible] Members are not required to have a property qua[illegible] [illegible] must have resided in the province for three years, an[illegible] [illegible] years of age. An elector must have a freehold of [illegible] [illegible] annual value, or be an occupier of a dwellin[illegible] [illegible] £25, and he must have been registered si[illegible] [illegible] The principle of "one man one vote" [illegible] [illegible] in South Australia, and for some time there [illegible] [illegible] by which absent electors may, under certai[illegible] [illegible] their votes. Members of the Assembly, as well as [illegible] [illegible] by being 21 years of age, and having been enrolled [illegible] [illegible] the election. Female suffrage was granted in 18[illegible] [illegible] for the first time at the general election held on [illegible] [illegible] 1896. Members of each House receive £200 per annu[illegible] [illegible] of a Parliament is limited to three years. There ha[illegible] [illegible] complete Parliaments, with an average duration of tw[illegible] [illegible] months and seven days. At the general election for the [illegible] Parliament, which took place in April, 1896, all the electorate[illegible] [illegible] were contested. The number of enrolled voters was [illegible] [illegible] these 91,348, or 66·30 per cent., voted.

Queensland, which formed part of New South Wales until the end of the year 1859, was never under the nominee system as a separate colony, but commenced with Responsible Government, under which its first Parliament was opened on the 29th May, 1860. Its Legislative Council consists of members nominated by the Governor. There are forty two at present, but no limit is fixed to the number. The tenure is for life. The qualification for members is that they must be 21 years of age, and natural-born or naturalised subjects. They receive no remuneration. The Legislative Assembly, of which there are seventy-two members, is elected by the people. Electors are enrolled under what is practically manhood suffrage, the only condition being six months' residence. Persons who possess freehold property of the value of £100 or more, property of an annual value of £10, or who hold property on lease at an annual rent of £10, or a pastoral lease or license from the Crown, are entitled to vote in every district within which such property is situate. Any person on the electoral roll is qualified to be a member of the Assembly. The duration of Parliament is limited to three years, and members of the Assembly receive £300 a year, with a free railway pass, and travelling expenses in the case of those members who are not in receipt of official salary. There have been twelve complete Parliaments, the average duration of which has been two years eleven months and fifteen days. The general election for the thirteenth Parliament took place in March, 1899. Three out of seventy-two seats were not contested. The total number of electors enrolled at the time was 142,493, of whom 94,679 were in contested electorates, and of these 75,010, or 79·13 per cent., voted.

In New Zealand, as in the other colonies, the form of government in the early days was of a mixed description, but in the year 1852 an Act was passed by the Imperial Parliament conferring upon the colony a Constitution. New Zealand was divided into six provinces, which were subsequently increased to nine, each governed by a Superintendent and a Provincial Council elected on a franchise which was practically equivalent to household suffrage. The provincial system, however, did not give satisfaction, and was abolished in 1876, when a system of Parliamentary Government for the whole of the colony came into operation. The Legislature now consists of two branches. There is a Legislative Council of forty five nominees. Prior to 1891 the members held their seats for life, but in that year an Act was passed under which all new appointments to the Council are made for seven years only, though members are eligible for re-appointment. The honorarium is £1 per annum, with a deduction of £1 5s. per sitting in case of absence exceeding five sittings in one session, except from illness or some other unavoidable cause. The qualification for membership is that the person must be 21 years of age, and a natural born or naturalised British subject. One-fourth of the total number of members is required to form a quorum. The House of Representatives consists of seventy-four members, of whom four are Maoris, elected to represent the natives.

The qualification for membership is simply registration as an ele
Persons of either sex who are not less than 21 years of age are ent
to vote, provided they have resided in the colony for one year, an
the electoral district for three months prior to registration, or
freehold estate of the value of £25 and have held such for six mo
Maoris are entitled to be placed on the European roll if they po
the latter qualification [illegible] they are entitled to vote in one of
[illegible] they are of age and reside the
The [illegible] has been in existence in
[illegible] The honorarium of a member of
[illegible] per annum, with travelling expe
[illegible] a deduction of £2 per sitting is m
[illegible] exceeding five days per ses
[illegible] avoidable cause. The duration o
[illegible] Twenty members are required to for
[illegible] complete Parliaments since const
[illegible] upon the colony, their average dura
[illegible] and twelve days. At the general elec
[illegible] which took place on the 6th Decem
[illegible] except three were contested. In the si
[illegible] there were 360,018 electors on the roll
[illegible] exercised the franchise. In the f
[illegible] of 13,628 votes was recorded.

[illegible] was proclaimed a British colony on the
[illegible] the group to enjoy the privilege of Respons
[illegible] stage of its existence the colony possess
[illegible] exclusively of officials nominated by
[illegible] elected members were added, representing
[illegible] the colony, and this state of things contin
[illegible] when the new Constitution came into existe
[illegible] Houses of Legislature were established, the Upper Ho
[illegible] nominated members, and the Lower House of th
[illegible] the thirty electorates into which the Colony
[illegible] An amended Constitution Act, however, came into fo
[illegible] when the total population of the colony was found to exc
[illegible] Under this Act the Legislative Council was incre
[illegible] and the Legislative Assembly to thirty three memb
[illegible] Act came into force in 1896, under the provis
[illegible] the Legislative Council consists of twenty four mem
[illegible] for six years, and the Legislative Assembly, of forty f
[illegible] for four years. A member of the Legislative Cou
[illegible] years of age and free from legal incapacity, and m
[illegible] in the Colony for at least two years. A member of
[illegible] Assembly must be 21 years of age and free from le
[illegible] and must have resided in the colony for at least tw
[illegible] Members of both Houses must either be natural-born subj
[illegible] the Queen, or have been naturalised five years, with residence

...colony for the full period of five years in the case of a member of ... Council, and for two years in the case of a member of the Assembly. ... elector for the Upper House must have resided in the colony for ... six months and for that time have held a freehold estate of the ...ear value of £100, or have been a householder occupying a dwelling ...f the annual value of £25 for the same period; or he must occupy a ...eehold estate of the annual value of £25, with eighteen months of ...ease to run, or have held a similar leasehold for the past eighteen ...nths, or be a holder of a Crown lease or license of an annual value of ...t less than £10, or he must be on the electoral roll of a Municipality ...r Roads Board district in respect of property of not less than £25 ...nual value. To qualify a person as an elector for the Assembly, he ...st either have resided in the colony for one year, and in the district ...r which he makes his claim for six months, or for that time have held ...freehold estate of not less than £50, or a house of an annual value of ...ss than £10, or a leasehold estate of similar value, or a pastoral ...running lease of not less than £5 per annum, or be inscribed on ...e roll of a Municipal or Roads Board district within the electorate. Members of the Legislature are not paid for their services, but they travel free over the railway lines of the colony. The first Premier was the Hon. Sir John Forrest, K.C.M.G. There was one Parliament under the Constitution of 1890; and there has been one under the Constitution of 1893. Their average duration has been two years seven months and twelve days. The third Parliament was elected in April and May, 1897, when the total number of electors on the roll was ... Contests took place for only twenty-six out of forty-four seats, the number of electors in the contested constituencies being 17,114, of whom 9,016, or 52·69 per cent., exercised their right to vote.

The following table shows the number of members of each of the Houses of Parliament in the various colonies, with the remuneration which they receive in consideration of their services:—

State	Legislative Council		Legislative Assembly	
	No. of members.	Remuneration.	No. of members.	Remuneration.
New South Wales	78	None	125	£300 per ann.
Victoria	48	None	95	£300 ,,
Queensland	40	None	72	£300 ,,
South Australia	24	£200 per ann.	54	£200 ,,
Western Australia	24	None	44	None
Tasmania	18	£100 per ann.	38	£100 per ann.
New Zealand	45	£150 per ann.	74	£240 per ann.

The Federal Movement.

The question of the federation of the various provinces of Australia was not overlooked by the framers of the first free Australian Constitution, who proposed the establishment of a General Assembly "to make laws in relation to those intercolonial questions that have arisen, or may hereafter arise," and who, indeed, sketched out a tolerably comprehensive federation scheme. Unfortunately, however, that proposition was included with another for the creation of colonial hereditary nobility, and in the storm of popular opposition and ridicule with which the latter idea was greeted, the former sank out of sight. Again, in 1853, the Committees appointed in New South Wales and Victoria to draw up the Constitutions of their respective colonies, urged the necessity for the creation of a General Assembly; but the Home Government indefinitely postponed the question by declaring that "the present is not a proper opportunity for such enactment." From time to time, since Responsible Government was established, the evil of want of union among the Australian colonies has been forcibly shown, and the idea of federation has gradually become more and more popular. Some years ago (1883) the movement took such shape that, as the result of an Intercolonial Conference, the matter came before the Imperial Parliament, and a measure was passed permitting the formation of a Federal Council, to which any colony that felt inclined to join could send delegates. The first meeting of the Federal Council was held at Hobart in January 1886. The colonies represented were Victoria, Queensland, Tasmania, Western Australia, and Fiji. New South Wales, South Australia, and New Zealand declined to join. South Australia sent representatives to a subsequent meeting, but withdrew shortly afterwards. The Council held eight meetings, at which many matters of intercolonial interest were discussed, the last having been held in Melbourne, early in 1899. One meeting every two years was necessary to keep the Council in existence. Being, from its inherent constitution, a purely deliberative body, having no executive functions whatever, the Federal Council possessed no control of funds or other means to put its legislation into force, and those zealous in the cause of federation have had to look elsewhere for the full realisation of their wishes. The Council, naturally, ceased to exist at the inception of the Commonwealth.

An important step towards the federation of the Australasian colonies was taken early in 1890, when a Conference, consisting of representatives from each of the seven colonies of Australasia, was held in the Parliament House, Melbourne. The Conference met on the 6th February, thirteen members being present, comprising two representatives from each of the colonies, except Western Australia which sent only one. Mr Duncan Gillies, Premier of Victoria, was elected President. Seven meetings were held, the question of federation being discussed at considerable length, and in the end the Conference adopted an address to the Queen, expressing their loyalty and attachment, and submitting

[illegible] resolutions which affirmed the desirability of an early union, under the Crown, of the Australian colonies, on principles just to all; suggested that the remoter Australasian colonies should be entitled to admission upon terms to be afterwards agreed upon, and recommended that steps should be taken for the appointment of delegates to a National Australasian Convention, to consider and report upon an appropriate scheme for a Federal Constitution.

In accordance with the terms of that resolution, delegates were appointed by the Australasian Parliaments, and on the 2nd March, 1891, the National Australasian Convention commenced its sittings in the Legislative Assembly Chambers, Sydney, having been convened at the instance of Mr. James Munro, the Premier of Victoria. There were forty-five members of the Convention altogether, New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, Tasmania, and Western Australia (which had only recently been placed in possession of the privilege of Responsible Government) each sending seven delegates, and New Zealand three. Sir Henry Parkes, then Premier of the mother colony, was unanimously elected President of the Convention; Mr. F. W. Webb, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, was appointed Secretary, Sir Samuel Griffith, Premier of Queensland, was chosen Vice-President, and Mr. (now Sir) J. P. Abbott, Speaker of the New South Wales Legislative Assembly, was elected Chairman of Committees.

A series of resolutions was moved by the President, Sir Henry Parkes, setting forth certain principles necessary to establish and secure a satisfactory foundation for the structure of a Federal Government, and approving of the framing of a Federal Constitution; and after discussion and amendment, the resolutions were finally adopted, affirming the following principles:—

1. The powers and rights of existing colonies to remain intact, except as regards such powers as it may be necessary to hand over to the Federal Government.
2. No alteration to be made in State boundaries without the consent of the Legislatures of such States, as well as of the Federal Parliament.
3. Trade between the federated colonies to be absolutely free.
4. Power to impose Customs and Excise Duties to rest with the Federal Government and Parliament.
5. Military and Naval Defence Forces to be under one command.
6. The Federal Constitution to make provision to enable each State to make amendments in its Constitution if necessary for the purposes of Federation.

Further resolutions approved of the framing of a Federal Constitution which should establish a Senate and a House of Representatives—the latter to possess the sole power of originating money Bills, also a Federal Supreme Court of Appeal, and an Executive consisting of a Governor-General, with such persons as might be appointed his advisers.

[illegible] Sir Samuel Griffith, as Chairman of the Co[illegible] brought up a draft Constituti[illegible] and carefully considered by the Conven[illegible] and adopted on the 9th April, wh[illegible] dissolved.

[illegible] no popular enthusiasm, and parlia[illegible] was not sought in any of the colonies [illegible] the background of politics.

[illegible] of the public began to exhibit an[illegible] which seemed in danger of being temp[illegible] the neglect of politicians. Public Associations [illegible] and Federation Leagues were or[illegible] the importance of federal unio[illegible] A conference of delegates from Federation Leagu[illegible] New South Wales and Victoria was ca[illegible] The most important suggestion made at this C[illegible] should be framed by a Conventio[illegible] for that purpose. [illegible] of Mr G. H. [illegible] New South Wales [illegible] that a greater mea[illegible] sympathy and [illegible] to the test in 189[illegible] the other colo[illegible] devising a definit[illegible] which was h[illegible] New Zealand [illegible] Parliament of each colo[illegible] for members [illegible] represent the colony [illegible] it was deter[illegible] to be submitt[illegible] suggested amend[illegible] to the electors [illegible] of the referendum.

[illegible] an unofficial gatheri[illegible] met at Bathu[illegible] and by its number[illegible] the increasing popularity o[illegible]

[illegible] of the Convention of [illegible] following year by New S[illegible] Tasmania and Western Aust[illegible] proclamation on the 4th Jan[illegible] and from the movement [illegible] of the representation o[illegible] Mr C. C. Kingston, Pr[illegible] President, and Sir Richard B[illegible]

President of the Legislative Council of South Australia, Chairman of Committees; while Mr Edmund Barton, Q.C., one of the representatives of the mother colony, and a gentleman who had taken a deep interest in the movement, acted as leader of the Convention. The first meeting of the session was held on the 23rd April, when a draft Constitution was adopted for the consideration of the various Parliaments, and at a formal meeting on the 5th May, the Convention adjourned until the 2nd September. On that date the delegates reassembled in Sydney, and debated the Bill in the light of suggestions made by the Legislatures of the federating colonies. In the course of the proceedings, it was announced that Queensland desired to come within the proposed union; and, in view of this development, and in order to give further opportunity for the consideration of the Bill, the Convention again adjourned. The third and final session was opened at Melbourne on the 20th January, 1898, the Colony of Queensland being still unrepresented: and, after further consideration, the Draft Bill was finally adopted by the Convention on the 16th March for submission to the people.

In its main provisions the Bill of 1898 followed generally that of 1891, yet with some very important alterations. It proposed to establish, under the Crown, a federal union of the Australasian colonies, to be designated the Commonwealth of Australia. A Federal Executive Council was created, to be presided over by a Governor-General appointed by the Queen. The Legislature was to consist of two Houses—a Senate, in which each colony joining the Federation at its inception was conceded the equal representation of six members; and a House of Representatives, to consist of, as nearly as possible, twice the number of Senators, to which the provinces were to send members in proportion to population, with a minimum number of five representatives for each of the original federating states. The principle of payment of members was adopted for the Senate as well as for the House of Representatives, the honorarium being fixed at £400 per annum. The nominative principle for the Upper House was rejected, both Houses being elective, on a suffrage similar to that existing in each colony for the popular Chamber at the foundation of the Commonwealth. At the same time, it was left to the Federal Parliament to establish a federal franchise, which however, could only operate in the direction of the extension, not the restriction, of any of the existing privileges of the individual colonies, so that in South Australia and New Zealand the right of women to vote cannot be withdrawn by the central authority so long as adult suffrage prevails in those States. While the House of Representatives was to be elected for a period of three years, Senators were to be appointed for six years, provision being made for the retirement of half their number every third year. The capital of the Commonwealth was to be established in federal territory.

To the federal authority was assigned power to deal with a large number of matters, with the provision that in case of a conflict between

[illegible] law, the former would prevail. Customs and Ex[illegible] [illegible] over on the establishment of the Commonwea[illegible] [illegible] telegraphs, naval and military defence, lighthouses [illegible] [illegible] and buoys, and quarantine, on dates to be [illegible] [illegible] further legislation. A uniform tariff of Cust[illegible] [illegible] to be imposed within a period of two years, intercolo[illegible] [illegible] become absolutely free. As it was recognised that [illegible] [illegible] services mentioned would leave the States with [illegible] [illegible] their provincial finances, a provision was inserted in [illegible] [illegible] the Commonwealth was required to raise [illegible] [illegible] Excise Duties four times the sum needed from [illegible] [illegible] purposes in the exercise of the original powers [illegible] [illegible] and to hand the excess thus raised to the [illegible] [illegible] other sources of revenue were left open to the Fed[illegible] [illegible] that he should not be compelled to go to the Customs [illegible] [illegible] which might be required. For five years after [illegible] [illegible] of the uniform tariff, it was provided that the surp[illegible] [illegible] should be returned to the States in the proportion[illegible] [illegible] contributions—to be ascertained by a system of account[illegible] [illegible] in such proportions as might be considered fair by [illegible] [illegible] Parliament. The province of Western Australia, where [illegible] [illegible] is exceptionally high, and is largely collected on [illegible] [illegible] the other colonies, was to be permitted gradually to re[illegible] [illegible] intercolonial duties during a period of five years, instea[illegible] [illegible] them at once, and to retain for its own purposes [illegible] [illegible] secured. Power was given to the Commonwealth to [illegible] [illegible] railways of the colonies with their consent, and to [illegible] [illegible] whole or part of the State debts, applying the surp[illegible] [illegible] and Excise revenue to the payment of the interest [illegible] [illegible] The proper administration of all laws relating to the tr[illegible] [illegible] the trade between the States of the Union was to be direc[illegible] [illegible] State Commission, on whom extensive powers were [illegible] [illegible] Provision was made for the prevention of the imposition [illegible] [illegible] and discriminating railway tariffs which might op[illegible] [illegible] against a neighbouring colony, due regard always being p[illegible] [illegible] to the financial obligations of the State which had [illegible] [illegible] lines. The maintenance of the rivers in a state of nav[illegible] [illegible] was recognised as coming within the trade and commerce [illegible] [illegible] but the people of a colony through which a river flows w[illegible] [illegible] deprived of a "reasonable" use of its waters for purpose[illegible] [illegible] conservation.

[illegible] Senate and the House of Representatives would have equ[illegible] the power of originating Bills, with the exception of Bills appropria[illegible] [illegible] imposing taxation, the right of originating which is reser[illegible] [illegible] House of Representatives. These appropriation or taxa[illegible] [illegible] not be amended by the Senate, but the Upper House m[illegible] [illegible] amendments, or recommend the omission of any of their [illegible]

ions, the House of Representatives dealing with these suggestions it pleased. In all other matters of legislation, the two Houses e granted equal powers; and it was provided that, in the event of Bill being twice passed by the House of Representatives and twice ected or shelved by the Senate, the two Houses could be simultaneiv dissolved; and if this failed to provide a solution of the difficulty, oint sitting might be held, at which the Bill in dispute could be pted by a majority of three-fifths of the members present and voting the joint sitting. The judicial power of the Commonwealth was ted in a High Court of Australia, empowered to hear appeals from federal Courts or Courts having federal jurisdiction, from the preme Courts of the States, and from the Inter State Commissions. right of appeal to the Privy Council in all cases not involving the erpretation of the Federal Constitution or the Constitution of a te was not abrogated; but the Federal Parliament was empowered limit the matters which might be taken to England. Appeal to the y Council on points of Constitutional law was forbidden. Lastly, Federal Constitution could only be amended if the proposal were adopted by an absolute majority of both the Senate and House of presentatives, and afterwards accepted by means of the referendum, h by a majority of the people of the Commonwealth and by a jority of the States.

Warmly received in Victoria, South Australia, and Tasmania, the was viewed somewhat coldly by a section of the people of New th Wales, and this feeling rapidly developed into one of active stility, the main points of objection being the financial provisions, al representation in the Senate, and the difficulty which the larger onies must experience in securing an amendment of the Constitution the event of a conflict with the smaller States. As far as the other nies were concerned, it was evident that the Bill was safe, and blic attention throughout Australasia was riveted on New South les, where a fierce political contest was raging, which it was cognised would decide the fate of the measure for the time being. e fears expressed by its advocates were not so much in regard to uring a majority in favour of the Bill, as to whether the statutory ority of 80,000 votes necessary for its acceptance would be reached. se fears were proved to be well founded; for on the 3rd June 1898, e result of the referendum in New South Wales showed 71,595 votes favour of the Bill, and 66,228 against it, and it was accordingly lost. Victoria, Tasmania, and South Australia, on the other hand, the was accepted by triumphant majorities. Western Australia did put it to the vote; indeed, it was useless to do so, as the Enabling of that colony only provided for joining a Federation of which w South Wales should form a part.

The existence of such a strong opposition to the Bill in the mother ny convinced even its most zealous advocates that some changes uld have to be made in the Constitution before it could be forced

the people; consequently, although the general election in [illegible] Wales, held six or seven weeks later, was fought on the Fed[illegible] the opposing parties seemed to occupy somewhat the s[illegible] and the question narrowed itself down to one as to w[illegible] entrusted with the negotiations to be conducted on beha[illegible] with the view to securing a modification of the objection[illegible] of the Bill. The new Parliament decided to adopt [illegible] sending the Premier, Mr. Reid, into conference, a[illegible] a series of resolutions affirming its desire to bring about [illegible] federal union, but asking the other colonies to agr[illegible] certain of the provisions which were most generally obj[illegible] in New South Wales. As they left the Assembly, these resolu[illegible] first, that, with equal representation in the Senate, [illegible] majority at the joint sitting of the two Houses should [illegible] majority, or the joint sitting be replaced by a pro[illegible] referendum; second, that the clause making it incum[illegible] Federal Government to raise, in order to provide for the [illegible] States, £3 for every £1 derived from Customs and E[illegible] for its own purposes, and thus ensuring a very high [illegible] eliminated from the Bill; third, that the site of the Fe[illegible] should be fixed within the boundaries of New South W[illegible] better provision should be made against the alterati[illegible] boundaries of a State without its own consent; fifth, that th[illegible] rivers for the purposes of water conservation and irrig[illegible] more clearly safeguarded; sixth, that all money Bills sh[illegible] with in the same manner as Taxation and Appropri[illegible] and seventh, that appeals from the Supreme Courts of [illegible] should only unfortunately be taken, either to the Privy Council or t[illegible] High Court, and not indiscriminately to either; while [illegible] also invited further inquiry into the financial provisions of [illegible] though avowing its willingness to accept these provisions i[illegible] respects the Bill were amended. These were all the resolut[illegible] moved by the Government to the House, but the Assem[illegible] added others in respect to the alteration of the Constitution and [illegible] of Senators, submitting, on the first of these points, tha[illegible] alteration of the Constitution should take effect, if approved by [illegible] and a national referendum; that a proposed alteration sh[illegible] submitted to the national referendum, if affirmed in two succes[illegible] successively an absolute majority in one House, and rejected by the o[illegible] and that no proposed alteration, transferring to the Commonwealth [illegible] power reserved by a State at the establishment of the federation, sh[illegible] take effect in that State, unless approved by a majority of ele[illegible] voting therein; and, on the second point, that the number of Sen[illegible] should be increased from six to not less than eight for each State.

The Legislative Council adopted the resolutions with some impo[illegible] amendments, discarding the suggestion in the first resolution [illegible] national referendum, submitting that the seat of the Federal Go[illegible]

ment should be established at Sydney; more clearly preserving the right of the people of the colony to the use of the waters of its inland rivers for purposes of water conservation and irrigation; carrying all appeals from the Supreme Courts of the States to the Privy Council; and declaring to affirm its preparedness to accept the financial scheme contained in the Bill. Further, the House suggested that the plan of submitting proposed alterations of the Constitution to the people by means of the referendum should be altered, and that no rights or powers enjoyed by a State should be afterwards transferred to the Commonwealth without the consent of both Houses of Parliament of that State. The New South Wales Premier decided to submit the resolutions of both Houses to the other Premiers in conference, attaching, however, greater importance to those of the Assembly, as embodying the views of a House which had just returned from the country. This conference was held in Melbourne at the end of January, 1899, Queensland being represented; and an agreement was arrived at, whereby it was decided that in the event of a disagreement between the two Houses of Parliament, the decision of an absolute majority of the members of the two Houses should be final; that the provision for the retention by the Commonwealth of only one-fourth of the Customs and Excise revenue might be altered or repealed at the end of ten years, another clause being added, permitting the Parliament to grant financial assistance to a State; that no alterations in the boundaries of a State should be made without the approval of the people as well as of the Parliament of that State; and that the seat of Government should be in New South Wales, at such place, at least 100 miles from Sydney, as might be determined by the Federal Parliament, and within an area of 100 square miles of territory, to be acquired by the Commonwealth, it being proposed that the Parliament should sit at Melbourne until it met at the seat of Government. A special session of the New South Wales Parliament was convened to deal with this agreement, and the Legislative Assembly passed an Enabling Bill, referring the amended Constitution to the electors. The Council, however, amended the Bill so as to—first, secure the postponement of the referendum for a period of three months; second, make it necessary for the minimum vote cast in favour of the Bill to be one-fourth of the total number of electors on the roll; third, defer the entrance of New South Wales into the Federation until Queensland should come in. These amendments were not accepted by the Assembly, and a conference between representatives of the two Houses was arranged, but this proved abortive, and twelve new members were appointed to the Upper House in order to secure the passage of the Bill. This course had the effect desired by the Government, for the Council passed the Bill on the 19th April, an amendment postponing the referendum for eight weeks being accepted by the Assembly. The vote on the Bill was, therefore, taken on the 20th June, 1899, the result of the voting being 107,420 votes in favour of the Bill, and 82,741 votes against it. The

Bill was consequently adopted by a majority of 24,679 votes and t necessary addresses having been passed by both Houses of Parliamen it was sent to London for approval by the Imperial Parliament Th colonies of Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, and Tasmania al adopted the amended Bill with large majorities. Western Austral still hung back, but an Enabling Bill was eventually passed, and plebiscite, taken on July 31, 1900, resulted in a victory for the Bill

Though the Bill was favourably received by the Imperial Governme certain amendments, the most important of which referred to the appe to the Privy Council, were proposed by Mr. Chamberlain, Secretary State for the Colonies. Four delegates were sent from the federat states to protest against any material alteration of the Bill M Chamberlain had proposed that, notwithstanding anything in the Cons tution, the prerogative of Her Majesty to grant special leave to appeal Her Majesty in Council might be exercised with respect to any judgme or order of the High Court of the Commonwealth or of the Supre Court of any State. At the same time, he promised a reconstitute Court of Appeal for the Empire, in which the Australian Colonie would find representation. The delegates, however, opposed with a their might the submission of constitutional disputes to the decision the Privy Council under any pretext. A compromise was, thereto agreed upon between the delegates and Mr. Chamberlain, by which t consent of the Executive Government or Governments concerned w made a necessary condition precedent to an appeal from the H Court to the Privy Council in such cases. The new clause provoke much hostile comment in the colonies, with the result that the Premi cabled a rejection of the arrangement. A fresh compromise was th prepared, by which it was determined that the right of appeal the Privy Council, where a constitutional point purely Australian character was involved, might be conceded at its pleasure by the Hi Court. By this settlement the finality of the decisions of the Hi Court upon matters of constitutional interpretation is preserv Accordingly, the Legislatures of the federating colonies agreed to t amendment. Thenceforward no further obstruction was offered to t passage of the Bill, and it received the Royal assent on the 9th July

Lord Hopetoun, who at one time held office as Governor of Victor has been appointed first Governor-General of the Commonwealth Australia. The proclamation of the new Commonwealth is to be mad on the first day of January, 1901.

POPULATION.

ON the 26th January, 1788, Captain Phillip arrived in Sydney Harbour, bringing with him an establishment of about 1,030 people all told. Settlement soon spread from the parent colony, first to Tasmania in 1803, and afterwards to other parts of the continent and to New Zealand. At the end of 1899 the population of Australasia had increased to 4,482,980 persons, thus distributed:

State.	Males.	Females.	Total
New South Wales . .	729,005	627,645	1,356,650
Victoria . .	580,660	582,800	1,163,460
Queensland . .	267,340	215,060	482,400
South Australia	194,560	176,140	370,700
Western Australia	112,290	58,740	171,030
Tasmania	98,640	83,660	182,300
Commonwealth . .	1,982,435	1,744,045	3,726,480
New Zealand	398,680	357,820	756 500
Australasia	2,381,115	2,101,865	4,482,980

If to these numbers, which principally comprise the people of European descent, there be added an estimated population of 200,000 Australian aborigines in an uncivilised state in Western Australia, South Australia, and Queensland, and of nearly 40,000 Maoris in New Zealand, the total population of Australasia at the end of 1899 would be about 4,723,000.

The growth of the population of Australasia from the date of the first settlement is shown in the following table. An official enumeration of the people was made in most of the years quoted:—

Year	Population of Australasia.	Annual Increase per cent.	Year.	Population of Australasia.	Annual Increase per cent.
1788	1,030	. . .	1891*	3,809,805	3·34
1801	6,508	15 13	1892	3,967,050	2·10
1811	11 525	11 94	1893	4,044,750	1 96
1821	35,610	5·88	1894	4,123,700	1 95
1831	79,300	8 34	1895	4,201,280	1 88
1841	211 095	10 28	1896	4,278,590	1 84
1851	430,596	7 36	1897	4,358,280	1 86
1861*	1,252,994	11·30	1898	4,419,490	1.40
1871*	1,924,770	4·39	1899	4,482,980	1 44
1881*	2,742,550	3·60			

* Census population.

The high rate of increase of 11·30 per cent. from 1851 to 1861 was, of course, due to the gold discovery, which proved a strong incentive to emigration to these colonies. The high annual increase between 1831 and 1841 was owing to the policy of State-aided immigration which was then in vogue. Prior to this period the high average arose from the small number of people on which the increase was calculated.

The population of Australasia, as shown by the census of 1891, had increased threefold since 1861, and nearly twofold since 1871, while the annual rate of increase for the whole thirty years was 3·78 per cent. Taking the states individually, the rate of increase for Queensland was the highest—a circumstance partly to be attributed to the large numbers introduced under the system of State-aided immigration which has prevailed in that colony for many years; but the largest numerical increase was that of New South Wales. The population of each state (exclusive of aborigines, a few in New South Wales and Victoria excepted) at the last four census periods, and at the end of 1899, is shown below:—

State.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1899.	Annual Increase per cent., 1891–1899.
New South Wales	350,860	503,981	751,468	1,132,234	1,350,650	3·57
Victoria	540,322	730,628	862,346	1,140,405	1,163,400	2·00
Queensland	30,059	120,104	213,525	393,718	482,400	7·45
South Australia	126,830	185,626	279,865	320,431	370,700	2·81
Western Australia	15,691	25,353	29,708	49,782	171,030	6·36
Tasmania	90,211	101,785	115,705	146,667	182,300	1·83
Commonwealth ...	1,153,973	1,668,377	2,252,617	3,183,237	3,726,480	3·07
New Zealand	99,021	256,393	489,933	626,658	756,500	5·39
Australasia ..	1,252,994	1,924,770	2,742,550	3,809,895	4,482,980	3·34

In order to show the great differences in the growth of the population of the individual states during the last ten years, the appended table has been prepared, giving the population at the end of each year since 1890.

Year.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.	Aggregate.
1890	1,171,860	1,143,270	392,900	319,410	40,200	145,200	670,150	3,782,990
1891	1,[illegible]	1,[illegible]	[illegible]	325,580	53,260	150,[illegible]	683,[illegible]	3,[illegible]
1892	1,[illegible]	1,165,270	400,040	[illegible]	[illegible]	153,[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1893	1,218,150	1,[illegible]	417,950	340,[illegible]	85,[illegible]	154,[illegible]	67[illegible]	[illegible]
1894	1,241,[illegible]	1,175,[illegible]	426,[illegible]	357,[illegible]	89,[illegible]	157,[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1895	1,[illegible]	1,17[illegible]	441,110	356,[illegible]	101,[illegible]	160,[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1896	1,[illegible]	1,164,510	450,[illegible]	358,[illegible]	137,[illegible]	160,[illegible]	714,[illegible]	[illegible]
1897	1,311,040	1,163,420	460,[illegible]	360,[illegible]	161,[illegible]	161,000	729,[illegible]	[illegible]
1898	1,[illegible]	1,[illegible]	4[illegible],[illegible]	[illegible]	168,[illegible]	177,[illegible]	74[illegible]	[illegible]
1899	1,350,650	1,163,400	482,400	370,700	171,030	182,300	756,500	[illegible]

The total populations, at the end of each of the last ten years, of the six states which form the Australian Commonwealth are given below:—

1890	3,159,080	1895	3,502,750
1891	3,251,530	1896	3,564,430
1892	3,316,620	1897	3,629,320
1893	3,372,530	1898	3,676,030
1894	3,437,570	1899	3,726,480

The populations quoted for the various colonies for the years 1891 to 1899 differ slightly from estimates previously published. During February 1900, a conference of Statisticians, held in Sydney, agreed upon certain estimates of population as at 31st December, 1899, and in connection an adjustment has been made to place the populations for each year between 1891 and 1899 on a uniform basis with those adopted by the conference. The differences chiefly arose on account of larger allowances for unrecorded departures by sea being made than had formerly been the case.

The following table gives the total increase in each colony during the forty-nine years, 1861-99, distinguishing the natural increase arising from the excess of births over deaths from the increase caused by the excess of arrivals over departures:—

State	Excess of		Total Increase.
	Births over Deaths.	Immigration over Emigration.	
New South Wales	658,764	349,340	1,008,104
Victoria	614,404	11,149	625,553
Queensland	200,328	254,016	454,344
South Australia	213,007	33,581	246,588
Western Australia	27,694	128,109	155,803
Tasmania	81,398	13,127	94,525
New Zealand	406,917	269,872	676,789
Australasia	2,202,512	1,059,194	3,261,706

The information conveyed by the above figures is important, as illustrating not only the movement of population but also the effect upon immigration of local influences, such as the attraction of liberal land laws, the fertility of the soil, the permanence of employment, and the power of assisted immigration. But a bare statement of the gross increase to each state from immigration is apt to be misleading, since the original density of population must be deemed a factor affecting

the current of immigration. The following figures show the density of population in each state at the time of taking the census on the four last occasions and at the close of 1899 :

State.	1861	1871.	1881.	1891	1899
New South Wales..	1·13	1·62	2·42	3 65	4 34
Victoria .. .	6·15	8 32	9·81	12·98	13 23
Queensland .	0·04	0 18	0·32	0·59	0 72
South Australia . , .	0·14	0·20	0·31	0·35	0 41
Western Australia	0·02	0·03	0·03	0·05	0 18
Tasmania	3 44	3·88	4·41	5·59	6 95
New Zealand	0·05	2·45	4·69	6·00	7 24
Australasia	0·41	0·63	0·89	1 24	1·45

At the close of the year 1899 the population of Australasia, including the native races, only reached a density of 1·53 persons per square mile—a rate which is far below that of any other civilised country, and excluding Australian aborigines and Maoris, the density was not more than 1·45 per square mile. But a comparison of the density of population in Australasia with that in older countries of the world is of little practical use, beyond affording some indication of the future of these states when their population shall have reached the proportions to be found in the old world. The latest authoritative statements as to the density of the populations of the great divisions of the world are as follows :—

Continent.	Area in square Miles.	Population.	Persons per square Mile.
Europe	3,742,000	372,925,000	99·66
Asia	17,101,000	830,558,000	48·57
Africa . . .	11,510,000	170,050,000	14 77
America	14,805,000	132,718,000	8·96
Australasia and Pacific Islands	3,457,000	5,907,000	1 71
Polar Regions . . .	1,732,000	82,000	0·05
The World .	52,347,000	1,512,240,000	28 89

From the earliest years of settlement there was a steady if not a rapid stream of immigration into these colonies, but in 1851, memorable for the finding of gold, the current was swollen by thousands of men in the prime of life who were attracted to the shores of Australia by the hope of speedily acquiring wealth. By far the greater number of the new arrivals settled in the new colony of Victoria, which had just been separated from New South Wales, and for some years afterwards Victoria had an unprecedented addition to its population. The great changes which took place will be evident when it is stated that in 1850, just prior to the gold rush, the population of the northern and southern portions of New South Wales was:

Port Phillip (afterwards Victoria)	76,162
Remaining portion of the Colony	189,341

But five years afterwards the population of the two colonies was:—

Victoria	364,324
New South Wales	277,579

Victoria enjoyed the advantage in population and increased its lead rapidly until 1871, when its inhabitants exceeded in number those of New South Wales by no less than 229,654. But from that time almost every year showed a nearer approach in the numbers of the inhabitants of the two colonies, until at the census of 1891 Victoria had only a lead of 3,171, while at the end of that year New South Wales had the larger population by about 5,800. By the end of 1899 the parent colony had, as previously mentioned, increased its lead to over 193,000. In considering the question of increase of population, attention should be paid to the density as well as to the actual number of the population. In regard to the case in point, the density of Victoria is 13·23 to the square mile, and in New South Wales only 4·34.

New Zealand and Queensland, and Western Australia also in more recent years, likewise owe much of their remarkable progress to the discovery of gold. In New Zealand the gold fever broke out in 1861, when the population numbered only 99,021, and the period of its activity extended over many years. At the end of 1899 the population had reached 756,500 souls, exclusive of Maoris, or seven and a half times that of 1861. In Queensland the attractive force of the gold-fields was exerted at a later date, and it may still be considered a powerful factor in stimulating the growth of population in that colony; while the development of Western Australia during the eight years ending 1898 was wholly due to the gold deposits discovered in that year, the population increasing from the small number of 46,290 at the end of 1890 to 168,130 at the end of 1898. The great rush of miners to Western Australia has for the present ceased, as the net immigration for 1899 was only 50; but no one who knows the vast mineral possibilities of the colony will be surprised if fresh discoveries should at any time be made, and immigration on a large scale again begin.

Much of the increase of population, especially in the colonies of South Wales, Queensland, and New Zealand, was due to the State p of assisted immigration. The following table shows the number o immigrants introduced into the colonies either wholly or partly a expense of the state, up to the end of 1899 :—

State.	Prior to 1881.	1881 to 1899	Total.
New South Wales	177,234	34,738	211,972
Victoria .	140,102	. . .	140,102
Queensland .	52,399	112,714	165,113
South Australia . . .	88,050	7,298	95,348
Western Australia .	889	5,994	6,883
Tasmania ..	18,965	2,734	21,699
New Zealand	*100,920	14,658	*115,578
Australasia	578,559	178,136	756,695

* Exclusive of a number prior to 1870, of which no record can be found.

Queensland and Western Australia are the only states that at pr assist immigrants, New South Wales ceased to do so in 1888, Vic practically ceased assisted immigration in 1873, South Australi 1886, Tasmania in 1891, and New Zealand in 1891.

The following table shows the increase of population by exce immigration over emigration for the four decennial periods e 1899, and for the period of nine years 1891 to 1899 :—

State.	1851–60.	1861–70.	1871–80.	1881–90.	18
New South Wales... .	123,097	45,539	109,341	164,205	3
Victoria	398,753	38,935	*12,672	112,097	*12
Queensland . .	†	68,191	73,849	101,525	1
South Australia ...	33,024	17,949	34,569	*17,004	*
Western Australia..	6,870	5,319	*339	10,170	1
Tasmania . .	6,767	*3,928	*1,427	5,572	2
New Zealand . .	44,742	118,637	132,976	9,453	2
Australasia	613,253	291,342	336,297	386,018	6

* Denotes excess of emigrants. † Included in New South Wales figures.

Taking the nineteen years from 1881, it will be seen from the table that no colony exhibits uniformity in the immigration return of the provinces even showing an excess of departures in one or more, but, with the exception of Victoria and South Australia,

colonies all show substantial increases from immigration over the whole period. If the results for the last nine years be compared, it will be found that Victoria lost 127,221 persons by an excess of emigration, while, on the other hand, Western Australia gained 11,686 persons during the same period. South Australia also lost to the extent of 1,933 persons, the remaining colonies all gaining slightly. Dealing with the year 1899, the exodus from Victoria was sufficient to more than counterbalance the arrivals in all the other colonies, so that for the first time in the history of Australasia there was displayed the remarkable fact of the departures exceeding the arrivals.

Year	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.	Australasia.
1881	16,673	4,976	4,000*	12,055	401	1,166	1,970	33,232
1882	16,034	6,563	17,043	3,679*	94	587	2,375	39,017
1883	27,278	6,597	34,371	4,286	436	689	8,657	82,204
1884	23,944	8,525	18,020	275	871	816	7,724	60,775
1885	24,829	9,027	7,056	9,280*	1,628	388*	2,757	35,629
1886	18,073	15,456	7,695	8,819*	2,738	302*	189*	35,022
1887	7,202	15,445	11,527	3,008*	2,049	1,797	211	35,223
1888	6,633	25,757	5,651	8,625*	1,196*	383*	10,548*	17,589
1889	8,241	9,794	4,340	2,346*	578	1,172	701*	21,078
1890	15,208	9,977	769*	1,857	1,571	418	2,793*	25,359
1891	17,848	3,986	2,375*	350*	6,073	4,583	3,745*	25,940
1892	5,269	13,760*	727	4,341	4,473	2,396*	4,953	2,153
1893	50	15,244*	231	4,013	5,223	1,885*	10,410	2,798
1894	2,529	15,808*	1,891	1,338*	15,068	90	2,260	5,598
1895	910	17,510*	2,848	2,034*	18,401	381	897	3,893
1896	2,927*	25,004*	818	3,875*	35,948	2,568	3,270	10,198
1897	1,987	17,274*	1,240	3,298*	22,592	2,853	2,758	9,958
1898	3,239	14,707*	3,300	12	3,958	3,379	2,689	1,900
1899	2,250	11,220*	3,135	596	50	2,630	1,885	674*

* Denotes excess of departures.

The great bulk of the movement of population within recent years, as shown above, is only intercolonial; and it is evident that immigrants are not attracted to these colonies from abroad, the long sea voyage and cost of passage probably being the chief deterring reasons.

Ages of the People.

At the census of 1891 the average age of the population of Australasia was 24·4 years: the average age of the males was 25·5 years, and that of the females 23·3 years. The oldest population was that of Victoria, with an average of 25·6 years, and the youngest that of Queensland, with an average of 23·7 years.

The following table shows the number of males at the close of 1899 at the dependent ages from infancy to 15 years; at the supporting ages

from 15 to 65, in the old-age group, from 65 years upwards; and the military ages from 20 to 40 years.—

State	Dependent Ages, up to 15 years.	Supporting Ages, 15 and under 65.	Old Ages, 65 and over.	Military Ages, 20 to 40 years.
New South Wales	261,355	444,000	23,650	251,290
[illegible]	[illegible]	363,920	35,180	200,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	174,360	6,710	103,[illegible]
[illegible]	74,370	113,490	6,700	62,[illegible]
[illegible]	32,[illegible]	78,420	1,610	45,[illegible]
[illegible]	36,880	57,890	3,870	31,980
[illegible]	672,[illegible]	1,232,080	77,720	695,[illegible]
New [illegible]	138,690	245,150	14,840	119,200
[illegible]	811,325	1,477,230	92,560	814,[illegible]

[illegible] except those relating to old ages, are deduced [illegible] which existed at the last census, but there [illegible] that these proportions have changed in consequence [illegible] rate, and that when the next census is taken the [illegible] the people will be found to have materially altered [illegible] the old ages represent the survivors of those who [illegible] wards at the census of 1891. It would appear that [illegible] Commonwealth nearly 696,000 men who could be [illegible] military service, as well as over 119,000 in New [illegible]

[illegible] population of Australasia may be conveniently grouped [illegible] divisions, namely, dependent ages, from infancy to 15 years [illegible] ages, from 15 to 45; and those over 45 years of age. The [illegible] of each class, as well as those of 65 years and upwards, in the [illegible] provinces at the close of 1899, are shown below.

State	Dependent Ages, up to 15 years.	Reproductive Ages, 15 and under 45.	Ages of 45 years and over.	Old Ages, 65 years and over.
New South Wales	259,350	291,350	76,945	16,2[illegible]
[illegible]	210,100	282,420	90,280	24,[illegible]
Queensland	91,640	106,470	22,950	4,[illegible]
[illegible] Australia	71,280	78,880	25,980	6,[illegible]
Western Australia	24,570	27,380	6,790	[illegible]
Tasmania	34,290	37,050	12,320	3,[illegible]
Commonwealth	691,230	817,550	235,265	55,450
New Zealand	136,010	170,680	51,130	9,470
Australasia	827,240	988,230	286,395	64,9[illegible]

The above figures are based on the proportions existing at the last census, as in the case of the preceding table for males, and are open to question for the reasons specified in connection with that table.

BIRTHS.

The total number of births in each colony, and the rate per thousand of population during the year 1899 are shown in the following table :—

State.	Births.			Birth-rate.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	
New South Wales	18,613	17,848	36,461	27·10
Victoria	15,785	15,223	31,008	26·69
Queensland	7,128	5,771	13,899	29·14
South Australia	4,852	4,570	9,422	25·61
Western Australia	2,636	2,538	5,174	30·51
Tasmania	2,415	2,259	4,674	26·00
New Zealand	9,724	9,111	18,835	25·11
Australasia	61,153	58,320	119,473	26·84

The birth-rate of Australasia in 1899 was identical with that of 1898, 26·84. In Victoria, South Australia, and Western Australia was an increase in the rate during 1899, but the other colonies manifest a tendency to fall. For the year 1898 the birth rates in various colonies were, New South Wales 27·39, Victoria 25·97, Queensland 29·90, South Australia 24·71, Western Australia 30·10, Tasmania 26·26, and New Zealand 25·75.

The number of births in each colony and in the whole of Australasia, in quinquennial periods from 1861 to 1895, and in the four years 1896-99, was as follows :—

State	1861-65.	1866-70.	1871-75.	1876-80.	1881-85.	1886-90.	1891-95.	1896-99.
New South Wales	79,968	92,643	100,643	127,572	158,007	188,300	197,500	146,4[illegible]
Victoria	123,353	131,072	130,363	132,347	140,258	172,307	180,852	124,65[illegible]
Queensland	11,[illegible]1	2[illegible],672	29,2[illegible]9	3[illegible],5[illegible]	48,[illegible]79	70,1[illegible]0	72,863	5[illegible],162
South Australia	30,472	3[illegible],067	36,398	46,[illegible]	56,018	58,200	53,003	38,002
Western Australia	3,352	[illegible],724	4,033	4,611	5,446	[illegible],606	10,[illegible]49	16,[illegible]47
Tasmania	15,454	14,679	15,313	17,105	21,425	23,710	24,704	18,54[illegible]
New Zealand	26,011	40,770	59,891	88,205	96,482	94,071	91,410	75,139
Australasia	290,961	346,557	387,820	453,745	528,[illegible]73	609,434	630,820	475,882

The average birth-rates of each colony for the same periods were as follows :—

State	1861-65.	1866-70.	1871-75.	1876-80.	1881-85.	1886-90.	1891-95.	1896-99.
New South Wales	42·71	40·70	39·05	38·53	37·65	36·36	32·85	27·92
Victoria	43·30	39·27	36·60	31·43	30·70	32·72	31·08	26·77
Queensland	43·07	49·91	46·81	36·[illegible]2	36·37	38·81	3[illegible]·15	30·46
South Australia	44·14	40·60	37·24	38·28	38·52	34·48	31·24	2[illegible]·24
Western Australia	30·[illegible]7	33·[illegible]	31·[illegible]	32·07	34·17	36·88	3[illegible]·77	28·05
Tasmania	3[illegible]	29·[illegible]	2[illegible]	3[illegible]·[illegible]4	3[illegible]·02	34·[illegible]	32·18	27·01
New Zealand	3[illegible]·22	42·2[illegible]	4[illegible]·02	41·32	36·50	31·[illegible]	27·06	25·78
Australasia	41·92	39·84	37·34	36·38	35·21	34·43	31·52	27·35

It is a matter of common knowledge that for some years p
birth-rate has been declining in the colonies, and so important
subject not only as regards the growth of the population, bu
as affecting general progress, that in 1899 the author made a
investigation into the question of childbirth in Australia, but
particularly with reference to New South Wales. The conc
arrived at with respect to that colony, however, may be held to
for all the others, seeing that the conditions of living do not
materially in any of them. During the course of the investiga
was found, first, that for all women the proportion of fertile ma
is decreasing; second, that amongst fertile women the birth-r
much reduced as compared with what it was twenty years ag
third, that Australian-born women are not so fertile as the Eu
women who have emigrated to the colonies, although how far
due to natural sterility, and how far to prevention, it is impos
say. It was also found that the decline had been persistent and
since 1881, and this restriction of births in a young country
Australia, where immigration is discouraged, is a matter whic
have far-reaching results, although its economic effects are only beg
to be seen, and should claim the serious consideration of all tho
people.

Particulars relating to illegitimate births will be found in the c
headed "Social Condition."

Deaths.

The following table shows the total number of deaths and th
per thousand of the population during the year 1899:—

State.	Deaths.			Death-rate	
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.
New South Wales .	9,131	6,770	15,901	12·62	10·89
Victoria .	9,286	7,292	16,578	16·00	12·54
Queensland	3,943	2,201	6,144	14·90	10·36
South Australia	2,424	2,054	4,478	12·59	11·71
Western Australia .	1,513	811	2,324	13·49	14·13
Tasmania .	1,192	1,012	2,204	12·28	12·24
New Zealand	4,464	3,216	7,680	11·29	9·07
Australasia .	31,953	23,356	55,309	13·51	11·20

The death-rates for 1899, with the exception of New Zealand,
a satisfactory decline as compared with those of 1898, but still th
not so low as those of 1897. The rate of 1898 for Australasia,
was 13·36, was abnormally high, and was due to the large num
deaths of young children from scarlet fever, measles, and who
cough, which were epidemic in the colonies in that year. The r

are quoted for the sake of comparison, and were—New South 12·60, Victoria 16·07, Queensland 13·40, South Australia 13·03, rn Australia 16·46, Tasmania 13·53, and New Zealand 9·84 per and Comparing the death-rate of males and females separately, Zealand shows the lowest rates amongst both sexes, and New Wales, which has the lowest general rate but one, is only fourth st males and third amongst females, while Queensland, which has rd highest general rate, stands second amongst the female rates. rn Australia exhibits the very unusual occurrence of the female ceeding the male; this fact is difficult to account for, and seems r that the female population is under estimated.

number of deaths in each colony and in the whole of Australasia, inquennial periods from 1861 to 1895, and in the four years 99, is shown in the following table:

ate	1861-65.	1866-70.	1871-75.	1876-80.	1881-85.	1886-90.	1891-95.	1896-99.
th Wales	31,561	38,466	40,909	53,256	66,103	71,457	76,802	62,665
..	42,452	55,136	59,759	62,811	66,811	84,048	82,056	66,125
nd	5,751	9,312	12,869	17,284	25,731	28,040	26,581	23,455
stralia	10,840	12,963	15,475	18,026	21,616	19,361	20,535	17,337
Australia	1,300	1,711	2,003	2,003	2,709	3,332	5,430	9,703
a	6,953	6,962	8,060	9,994	9,790	10,389	10,123	8,411
land	10,001	13,329	19,254	25,254	29,074	29,746	33,525	27,051
ralasia	118,957	135,878	158,401	187,028	221,834	246,973	255,052	215,637

average death-rates of each colony for the periods shown in the table are given below; but the statement does not afford a just arison between the colonies, as no account is taken of the ages of people:—

tate	1861-65.	1866-70.	1871-75.	1876-80.	1881-85.	1886-90.	1891-95.	1896-99.
uth Wales .	16·86	16·05	14·99	16·09	15·66	13·80	12·77	11·05
a	17·36	16·52	15·04	14·92	14·65	16·07	14·19	14·19
and	21·06	18·07	17·94	16·90	16·10	15·53	12·82	12·72
stralia ...	15·70	15·01	15·83	14·90	14·71	12·55	12·08	11·37
Australia	16·31	15·55	16·03	14·32	17·19	15·97	16·31	16·06
a	15·20	14·06	15·04	14·52	16·00	15·16	13·14	13·25
land	14·36	12·05	12·93	11·83	11·00	9·87	10·14	9·50
ralasia	16·75	15·02	15·26	15·06	14·79	13·95	12·74	12·59

[illegible] that showing the birth rates, it [illegible] Australasia corresponds with the [illegible] birth rate and a low death rate [illegible] birth-rate has been declining [illegible] the death rate, and the balance in favo[illegible] as it might have been. Fro[illegible] natural increase in various coun[illegible] it will be seen that the [illegible] of any of the countries [illegible] that the birth-ra[illegible] the death rate is so much hi[illegible] advantage in that respect.

[illegible]	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Excess of births per 1000 [illegible]
[illegible]	31·76	12·63	19·13
[illegible]	30·24	14·67	15·57
[illegible]	34·46	13·23	21·23
[illegible]	30·07	11·99	18·08
[illegible]	29·42	16·32	13·10
[illegible]	30·30	13·16	17·74
[illegible]	27·52	9·78	17·74
[illegible]	30·68	12·85	17·83
[illegible] and Wales	30·28	18·35	11·93
[illegible]	30·71	18·79	11·92
[illegible]	22·98	18·11	4·87
[illegible] Kingdom	29·45	18·37	11·08
[illegible]	30·42	17·80	12·62
[illegible]	30·24	16·50	13·74
[illegible]	27·41	16·35	11·06
[illegible]	37·39	27·30	10·09
[illegible]	40·95	30·58	10·37
[illegible]	28·20	19·69	8·51
[illegible] Empire	36·20	22·69	13·51
[illegible]	36·90	22·26	14·64
[illegible] Netherlands	32·79	18·93	13·86
[illegible]	29·10	19·42	9·68
[illegible]	22·41	21·67	0·74
[illegible]	36·90	24·94	11·96

If the year 1898 only had been taken as the basis of comparison, [illegible] by natural increase to Australasia would have been in some [illegible] below that of the European countries, but the death rate of 1[illegible] in Australasia was abnormally high, and much above the average [illegible] years.

Index of Mortality.

So far consideration has only been given to the actual death-rates as they are obtained by taking the proportion which the number of deaths bears to the number of inhabitants. It is well known, however, that the death-rate of a country is affected by more than the salubrity of its climate, the degree of perfection to which the sanitary condition of its cities and towns and villages has been brought, and the nature of the industrial pursuits of its people. It is known that the ages of the people considerably affect the death rate of a country, that, for instance, one which has a large proportion of young people will, other things being equal, have a lower death rate than another which has a comparatively large proportion of old persons, and it is this fact that statistical science now seeks to take into account in establishing the rates of mortality of the various countries of the world. In order to have a comparison of the mortality of the principal countries on a uniform basis the International Statistical Institute, in its 1895 session, held at Berne, decided to recommend the population of Sweden, in five age-groups, as ascertained at the census of 1890, as the standard population, to which the index of mortality should be calculated. Applying the rates of mortality in each age-group in the colonies to the age constitution of the standard population, the "index of mortality," as distinguished from the actual "death-rate," is found as given below for each of the five years 1894–98. How greatly the ages of the people of a country affect its mortality will be evident from the fact that whereas in 1898 the death-rates of the colonies ranged from 9·84 in New Zealand to 16·46 in Western Australia, a difference of 6·62 per thousand, the range of the indexes of mortality was only 4·61 per thousand, namely, from 14·94 in New Zealand to 19·55 in Victoria.

State.	1894.	1896.	1896.	1897.	1898.
New South Wales . .	16·32	15·69	16·45	14·97	17·03
Victoria	15·96	16·39	16·48	16·00	19·55
Queensland	16·29	15·21	16·73	16·11	19·07
South Australia .	14·61	14·36	14·44	14·55	16·35
Western Australia .	16·65	18·86	17·48	18·47	17·05
Tasmania	14·74	13·40	13·89	13·66	15·86
New Zealand	14·44	13·98	13·01	13·53	14·94
Australasia .	15·68	15·49	15·71	15·17	17·42

It should be remembered, in comparing these indexes of mortality, that the age constitution of each colony during each of the five years taken as a mean assumed to be that which existed at the census of 1891; but, as has been pointed out before, there is little doubt that this has now changed, and the comparison is probably most unfair to Victoria

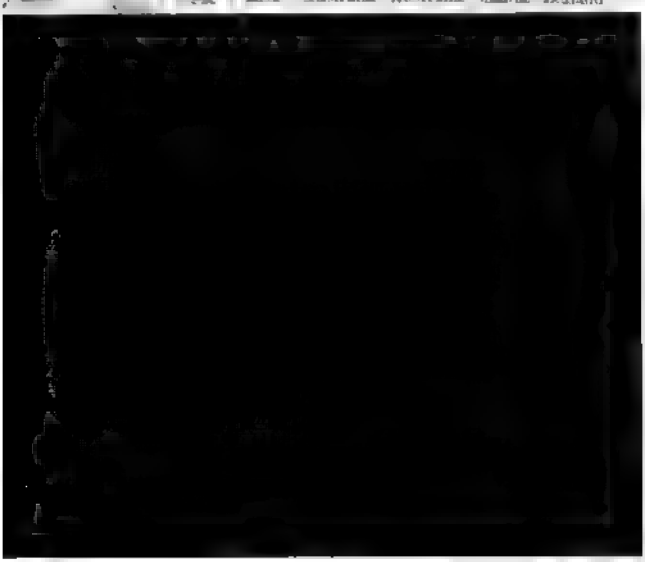
Ages at Death.

...ailed statement of the ages at death of the males who ... the year 1898 in the various colonies is given below. ... South Australia in this and subsequent detailed tables ... province proper exclusive of the Northern Territory.

Death.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.	To...
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	443	312	860	7,
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	101	67	117	1,
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	26	24	52	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	21	3	45	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	11	12	24	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	35	31	51	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	23	30	78	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	30	35	118	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	122	49	171	1,
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	127	40	162	1,
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	130	40	154	1,
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	134	39	150	1
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	100	42	152	1,
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	53	42	180	1
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	66	49	216	1,
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	42	25	290	1,
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	65	43	335	2,
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	79	75	384	2,
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	49	[illegible]	278	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	66	[illegible]	424	3,
		[illegible]	[illegible]	2	20	5	...	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	2,584	1,793	1,315	4,280	33,

... respecting the deaths of females in 1898 is gi... ...ing ...ate —

[illegible]	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.	To...



The next table shows the ages of all the persons who died during 98 —

Ages at Death	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania.	New Zealand	Australasia.
Under 1 year . .	4,418	4,047	1,540	1,251	825	531	1,510	14,122
And under 2 years	1,100	1,250	374	265	184	119	200	3,492
„ 3 „ ..	385	382	159	75	47	45	[illegible]	1,184
„ 4 „	200	213	129	52	33	15	72	723
„ 5 „	176	196	78	44	25	20	47	587
„ 10 „ ..	462	637	220	129	72	64	166	1,756
„ 15 „ .	319	324	127	97	45	52	142	1,106
„ 20 „	416	463	162	136	59	85	263	1,575
„ 25 „ ..	550	579	200	160	124	88	320	2,141
„ 30 „	604	703	289	165	182	88	290	2,326
„ 35 „	646	729	308	168	176	84	269	2,380
„ 40 „ .	717	761	321	100	167	76	271	2,403
„ 45 „	622	617	311	168	122	74	282	2,197
„ 50 „	617	566	200	163	95	[illegible]	304	2,075
„ 55 „	607	568	200	154	85	76	328	2,078
„ 60 „	680	734	281	189	83	56	441	2,464
„ 65 „	961	1,007	302	227	78	87	493	3,145
„ 70 „	877	1,421	287	228	93	135	574	3,615
„ 75 „	808	1,256	207	259	60	158	415	3,163
And upwards	1,570	2,144	360	550	89	424	760	5,908
Unstated	7	13	11	2	21	9	..	63
Total	16,661	18,895	6,243	4,975	2,716	2,359	7,214	58,593

The above tables, showing the ages at death, are not of much use for comparative purposes, since the rates for each age are not shown. It is unfortunately, not possible to quote these, as the numbers living at each age are not known with any exactitude, the only figures available being those of the last census, since which time the age constitution of the populations has changed materially. It is, however, possible to estimate the mortality of infants under 1 year of age, and this may be ascertained accurately by comparing the deaths with the number of births; moreover, this is a most sensitive and reliable test of the healthiness and sanitary condition of a country, since at this early age children are most susceptible to the attacks of disease. The number under 1 year who died in 1898 was 14,122, or 119·91 per 1,000 births,

while in 1899 there was a fall to 13,153, or 113·13 per 1,000 births. The following table shows for each colony the number of deaths of children under 1 year of age, and the rate per 1,000 births, since 1870, arranged in five-year periods:—

State	1871-75.	1876-80.	1881-85.	1886-90.	1891-95.	1896-99.
			DEATHS under 1 Year.			
New South Wales	11,036	14,626	19,709	21,586	21,930	16,983
Victoria	16,981	15,865	17,043	22,582	20,221	14,363
Queensland	3,596	5,068	6,732	8,339	7,496	5,881
South Australia	5,758	6,516	7,594	5,593	5,227	4,355
Western Australia		.	.	939	1,332	2,800
Tasmania	1,560	1,830	2,331	2,437	2,337	1,895
New Zealand	6,390	8,432	8,733	7,924	8,005	6,109
Australasia	45,321	52,337	62,142	69,400	66,548	52,386
			RATE per 1,000 Births.			
New South Wales	103·58	114·65	123·98	114·64	111·00	115·98
Victoria	124·[illegible]	11[illegible]·87	121·51	131·06	111·81	115·21
Queensland	122·82	135·02	137·45	118·87	102·88	104·71
South Australia	158·20	140·70	134·13	105·13	98·67	114·94
Western Australia				109·15	130·05	165·24
Tasmania	[illegible]	[illegible]	108·75	102·78	94·26	102·21
New Zealand	[illegible]	[illegible]	90·51	84·23	87·57	81·30
Australasia	118·[illegible]	116·53	118·88	113·71	105·51	110·11

In spite of all the sanitary improvements that have been effected in recent years, the rate does not seem to have decreased very appreciably in any of the colonies except in South Australia and in New Zealand. In South Australia the rate was very high in the earlier years, the reason given being that the deaths of several children 1 year old were wrongly included by the registering officers with those under 1 year. In every province except New Zealand, where the mortality has declined more or less regularly over the whole period, the death rates of infants have risen during the last period; in Western Australia the increase has been very serious, to the extent of more than one-fourth in five years.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

The system of classifying the causes of death adopted in the Australasian colonies is that arranged by Dr. William Ogle on the basis of the older system of Dr. William Farr, his predecessor as Superintendent of the Statistical Department of the Registrar General's Office, England. Under this classification deaths are divided into eight classes, namely,

aths from specific febrile or zymotic diseases, from parasitic diseases, om dietetic diseases, from constitutional diseases, from developmental iseases, from local diseases, from violence, and from ill-defined or nspecified causes. The following were the assigned causes of death of e 33,915 males who died in the colonies during 1898:

Classification	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.	Australasia.
Specific febrile or zymotic diseases—								
Miasmatic diseases	875	954	407	204	271	106	253	3,160
Diarrhoeal diseases	402	407	192	163	157	71	162	1,554
Malarial diseases	15	2	22	2	20			61
Zoogenous diseases	5							5
Venereal diseases	26	42	25	4	7	4	16	124
Septic diseases	54	39	14	16	10	1	19	153
Total	1,377	1,444	750	389	465	182	450	5,057
Parasitic diseases	45	33	10	4	2	7	15	116
Dietetic diseases	127	134	73	25	41	8	44	452
Constitutional diseases	1,386	1,668	604	348	139	155	742	5,042
Developmental diseases	942	955	195	295	98	241	543	3,069
Local diseases—								
Diseases of nervous system	934	854	346	234	120	132	405	3,085
Diseases of organs of special sense	12	15	7	3	2	3	6	46
Diseases of circulatory system	788	979	287	235	112	113	489	3,003
Diseases of respiratory system	1,290	1,464	428	260	189	133	625	4,394
Diseases of digestive system	997	1,206	406	238	250	113	345	3,645
Diseases of lymphatic system and ductless glands	10	13	7	6	3	2	15	54
Diseases of urinary system	439	443	119	109	58	39	172	1,379
Diseases of organs of generation	1		2	1		1		7
Diseases of organs of locomotion	20	32	11	16	4	5	14	102
Diseases of integumentary system	23	32	13	8	1	4	12	93
Total	4,522	5,126	1,626	1,119	730	545	2,041	15,718
Violence—								
Accidental or negligence	668	579	369	182	162	98	385	2,443
Homicide	22	12	10	2		2	4	52
Suicide	120	102	66	36	27	7	66	433
Execution	1	1					2	4
Violent deaths not classified	6							6
Total	826	694	445	220	189	107	457	2,938
Ill-defined and not specified causes.	411	479	68	184	120	73	188	1,523
Grand Total	9,696	10,533	3,771	2,584	1,753	1,318	4,230	33,915

It will be seen that local diseases accounted for nearly one-half of e deaths of males, viz., for 15,718, out of 33,915, which is equal to a te of 67·46 per 10,000 males living. These diseases were far more evalent in Victoria, where the rate was 88·12 per 10,000, than in y other colony; the nearest approach being in Western Australia, here the rate reached 66·45. The three colonies, New South Wales,

[illegible] and South Australia, with rates of 63·53, 62·89, and 60·[illegible] [illegible], while Tasmania followed with 58·33, and N[illegible] [illegible] 5·55 per 10,000.

[illegible] diseases, the febrile or zymotic diseases were the mo[illegible] of death, being responsible for 5,057, equal to 21·70 p[illegible] In Western Australia these diseases flourished to an alarm[illegible] causing deaths at the rate of 41·81 per 10,000 males livin[illegible] the large number of deaths from typhoid fever. The next colon[illegible] Queensland, with 29·01, the other colonies showing rate[illegible] from 11·59 in New Zealand to 24·82 in Victoria.

[illegible]nstitutional diseases come next with 5,042 deaths, or 21·64 p[illegible], Victoria claiming most deaths with a rate of 28·67, largel[illegible] by the great number of deaths from phthisis; the other colonie[illegible] at fairly regular intervals, with rates increasing from 12·5[illegible] Western Australia to 23·36 in Queensland.

Developmental diseases were assigned as the cause of death in 3,06[illegible], or at the rate of 13·17 deaths per 10,000 living. These diseas[illegible] affected, proportionally, most victims in Tasmania, where the rate w[illegible] 23·79, the chief contributing cause being "old age," and as Tasmania ha[illegible] proportionately more old people than any of the other colonies, the hig[illegible] rate is, to some extent, accounted for. The next lowest rate is Queen[illegible]land with 7·54, followed by Western Australia with 8·81, and Ne[illegible] Zealand with 8·83, while in New South Wales the rate is 13·23, i[illegible] South Australia 15·96, and in Victoria 16·42.

The deaths from parasitic and dietetic diseases numbered only 56[illegible] males, or 2·41 per 10,000 living in Australasia, the variation in th[illegible] rates for the respective colonies being comparatively small.

No less than 2,938 males, or 12·61 per 10,000, met with violen[illegible] deaths, the sparsely populated provinces of Queensland and Weste[illegible] Australia showing the highest rates with 17·21 and 17·00 respectively[illegible] The rates for the other colonies were fairly uniform, ranging from 11·[illegible] in Tasmania to 11·93 in Victoria.

In 1,523 cases, or nearly 5 per cent. of the total, the causes of deat[illegible] were either not specified, or so ill-defined that classification wa[illegible] impossible.

A classification, similar to that of males, of the causes of death of th[illegible] 21,078 females who died during 1898 gives the following results:—

Classification	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.	Au[illegible]
[illegible] or zymotic diseases								
Miasmatic diseases	848	860	467	203	113	97	107	[illegible]
Diathetic diseases	483	339	151	130	78	37	113	[illegible]
Malarial diseases	1		7	..	1			
Parasitic diseases	22	28	6	2	4		13	
Developmental diseases	125	109	21	39	15	6	36	
Total	1,377	1,336	652	383	211	140	269	[illegible]

Classification.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.	Australasia.
[illegible] diseases	36	33	7	[illegible]	2		12	93
[illegible] diseases	50	81	38	17	12		20	218
[illegible] constitutional diseases	1,041	1,408	317	315	75	163	643	3,962
[illegible] mental diseases	630	610	155	240	65	159	305	2,170
[illegible] Diseases—								
Diseases of nervous system	650	713	223	182	60	112	316	2,200
Diseases of organs of special sense	7	14	3		1	1	7	33
Diseases of circulatory system	450	726	142	102	41	91	287	1,939
Diseases of respiratory system	891	967	262	189	92	106	311	2,818
Diseases of digestive system	787	1,184	329	191	[illegible]	81	250	3,010
Diseases of lymphatic system and ductless glands	6	10	4	10		5	24	59
Diseases of urinary system	191	210	65	59	18	21	102	666
Diseases of organs of generation	47	35	19	16	5	4	26	152
Diseases of parturition	164	118	60	29	16	25	72	483
Diseases of organs of locomotion	7	24	8	11	.	2	10	62
Diseases of integumentary system ..	18	25	11	8	1		5	68
Total ...	3,219	4,020	1,136	887	420	448	1,409	11,545
[illegible]								
Accident or negligence	240	210	108	88	34	38	78	796
Homicide	19	10	5	5	4	5	2	50
Suicide	36	27	12	5	3	1	10	94
Total	295	247	125	98	41	44	90	940
Ill-defined and not specified causes	371	421	42	142	07	87	120	1,286
Grand Total	7,025	8,162	2,452	2,091	929	1,041	2,964	24,678

Almost all that has been said in regard to the causes of the deaths of males may, with slight variations, be repeated with equal truth concerning the deaths of females. With a few exceptions, the rates of death from the various causes were less amongst females than amongst males. The exceptions were that in Western Australia, deaths from zymotic diseases amongst females were 78·04 per 10,000, principally owing to the large number of deaths from diseases of the digestive system, whilst amongst males the rate was 66·45 per 10,000; and that in Queensland with a rate of 31·43, in New South Wales with 22·55, and South Australia with 22·07 per 10,000, zymotic diseases were more fatal to females than to males. The general rate for these diseases for Australasia was identical for both males and females, viz., 21·70 per 10,000.

Deaths from violence were not nearly so frequent amongst females, the rate being only about one third that of males, viz., 4·58, ranging from 2·59 in New Zealand to 7·62 in Western Australia. The number of females who died from ill-defined causes was very nearly the same as that of males—the rate being 6·26 per 10,000. In the following table

the general rates for deaths from each class of diseases in Austr[illegible] during 1898, amongst males, females, and all persons are shown :—

DEATH-RATE per 10,000 Living.

Diseases.	Males.	Females.	Total.
[illegible]	21·70	21·70	21·70
[illegible]	[illegible]	0·45	0·48
[illegible]	[illegible]	1·08	1·53
[illegible]	[illegible]	19·29	20·74
[illegible]	[illegible]	10·59	11·96
[illegible]	[illegible]	56·20	62·18
[illegible]	[illegible]	4·58	8·85
[illegible]	[illegible]	6·26	6·41

[illegible] the deaths of males and fe[illegible] [illegible] death of all persons who [illegible]

[illegible]	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
[illegible]							
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	264	203	450
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	543	92	[illegible]	108	775
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	29	2	[illegible]		
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	31	6	11	4	29
[illegible]	[illegible]	148	35	[illegible]		[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1,402	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	17	[illegible]	[illegible]		27
[illegible]	[illegible]	715	111	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	668	216	[illegible]	1,365
[illegible]	[illegible]	1,[illegible]	[illegible]	541	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]							
[illegible]	[illegible]	1,[illegible]	[illegible]	416	[illegible]	244	[illegible]
[illegible] special sense	[illegible]	[illegible]	20	3	[illegible]	4	73
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	439	427	[illegible]	[illegible]	770
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	690	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	2,490	735	429	[illegible]	104	[illegible]
[illegible] and							
[illegible]	16	[illegible]	11	26	3	7	[illegible]
[illegible] system	630	653	184	168	76	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] generation	[illegible]	[illegible]	21	17	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	164	118	60	[illegible]	15	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] locomotion.	27	[illegible]	14	27	4	7	[illegible]
[illegible] integumentary system.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	10	[illegible]	4	[illegible]
Total	[illegible]	9,152	[illegible]	2,000	1,150	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]							
[illegible] or negligence	908	780	477	270	196	130	402
[illegible]	41	22	16	[illegible]	4	7	6
[illegible]	165	120	78	41	30	6	76
[illegible]	1	1				[illegible]	2
[illegible] deaths not classified	6						
Total	1,1[illegible]	941	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] and not specified causes	[illegible]	900	1	[illegible]	217	[illegible]	[illegible]
Grand Total	16,061	15,[illegible]	[illegible]	4,675	2,716	[illegible]	7,[illegible]

Specific Febrile or Zymotic Diseases.

The deaths from specific febrile or zymotic diseases were very numerous in 1898, including 16·24 per cent. of the total causes, and representing 21·70 deaths per 10,000 of the population. Under this class are included the highly infectious diseases—measles, scarlet fever, whooping-cough, and diphtheria—which are especially fatal to children, and which together carried off 6·62 per 10,000 of the whole population during 1898; diarrhœal diseases, chiefly fatal to persons at the extremes of life; and typhoid (enteric) fever, whose ravages are very great.

It would be interesting to compare the fatality of these diseases in the various colonies, stated in proportion to the number of cases occurring; but unfortunately the necessary information is lacking. In some of the colonies legal enactments provide for the notification of infectious diseases, but they are not rigidly enforced, and doubtless many cases escape notice.

In New South Wales, since the beginning of 1898, under the provisions of the Public Health Act of 1896, notification of the three diseases scarlet fever, diphtheria, and typhoid has been compulsory, and careful record has been kept of the number of cases and deaths, the averages for the two years 1898 and 1899 being shown below:

Disease.	Number of cases notified.	Number of Deaths.	Fatality per cent.
Scarlet Fever	3,865	34	0·9
Diphtheria	1,117	85	7·6
Typhoid	3,042	248	8·2

The number of deaths shown above differs from the number registered, since the Board of Health only accepts medically certified cases. The experience of London during the nine years 1891-99 is also given:

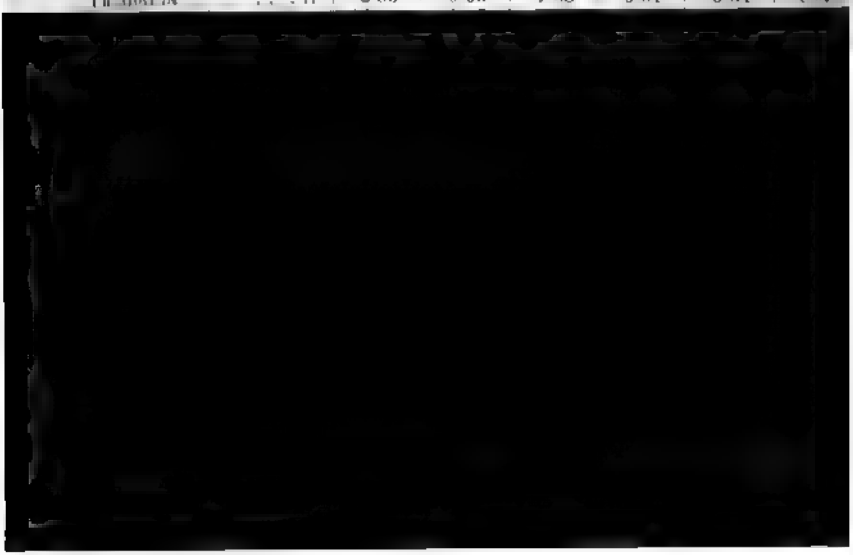
Averages of nine years, 1891-99.

Disease.	Number of cases notified.	Number of Deaths.	Fatality per cent.
Scarlet Fever	21,973	872	4·0
Diphtheria	11,646	2,259	19·4
Typhoid	3,432	599	17·4

Measles.

Measles, which is mainly a children's disease, was the cause in 18[illegible] of the deaths of 1,507 persons, equal to a rate of 3·44 per 10,000 livi[illegible] The following tables show the number of deaths in each colony fro[illegible] this disease, the death-rate per 10,000 living, and the proportion p[illegible] cent. of deaths from this cause to total deaths in five-year periods sin[illegible] 1870 :—

State.	1871-75.	1876-80.	1881-85.	1886-90.	1891-95.	1896-[illegible]
Number of Deaths.						
New South Wales	... ..	311	200	293	885	516
Victoria.....	1,809	271	386	148	696	681
Queensland	179	50	102	4	302	139
South Australia	256	18	240	8	291	54
Western Australia	...	1	129	nil.	27	25
Tasmania	132	3	66	1	49	43
New Zealand	*359	10	246	85	526	89
Australasia	....	650	1,369	539	2,776	1,538
Death-rate per 10,000 living.						
New South Wales	... ..	0·94	0·47	0·57	1·47	1·32
Victoria	4·73	0·68	0·81	0·28	1·20	1·95
Queensland	2·50	0·35	0·76	0·02	1·46	1·01
South Australia	3·64	0·15	1·63	0·05	1·74	0·31
Western Australia	....	0·07	8·19	0·00	0·81	0·81
Tasmania	2·56	0·08	1·08	0·01	0·64	0·91



With regard to the diseases which are almost solely confined to children, the true rates are somewhat obscured by stating the proportion of deaths to the whole population, since the prevalence of the diseases will vary in each colony according to proportional number of young children in each. It has, however, been necessary to state them as above, because there is no means of making an accurate estimate of the numbers living at the ages most affected. Comparing the rates as they appear, it will be seen that measles has been more prevalent since 1891 than during the preceding fifteen years, and that it seems to be most common in the first four colonies shown in the table. Although the disease is in evidence every year, it usually occurs as an epidemic, and, according to the records, the outbreaks occur with more or less regularity and severity about every five years. Measles was epidemic in nearly all the colonies in 1875 (when the attack was very severe), in 1880, in 1884 (when Western Australia suffered heavily), in 1889, in 1893, and in 1898.

Scarlet Fever.

Scarlet fever was epidemic in 1898, the deaths resulting from it numbering 236, or at the rate of 0·54 per 10,000. In the table below is shown the number of deaths in each colony, the rates, and the proportion of total deaths, arranged quinquennially since 1870 :-

State.	1871-75.	1876-80.	1881-85.	1886-90.	1891-95.	1896-98.
Number of Deaths.						
New South Wales	.	1,295	476	404	460	210
Victoria	1,455	2,646	282	148	172	173
Queensland	77	37	19	73	31	88
South Australia	626	520	141	27	56	26
Western Australia	.	.	.	nil.	1	2
Tasmania	72	304	49	9	8	14
New Zealand	*58	383	312	96	40	8
Australasia	.	5,185	1,279	757	768	521
Death rate per 10,000 living						
New South Wales		3·91	1·13	0·78	0·76	0·54
Victoria	3·81	6·44	0·59	0·28	0·30	0·30
Queensland	1·07	0·36	0·14	0·40	0·15	0·64
South Australia	6·40	4·30	0·96	0·17	0·33	0·24
Western Australia	.	.	.	0·00	0·03	0·05
Tasmania	1·40	5·59	0·80	0·13	0·08	0·28
New Zealand	*0·47	1·79	1·18	0·32	0·12	0·04
Australasia	.	4·20	0·86	0·43	0·38	0·40

ny since 1870, the rates and the proportion of total deaths :

State.	1871-75.	1876-80.	1881-85.	1886-90.	1891-95.	1896-98.
		Number of Deaths.				
h Wales . .	.	676	632	970	1,157	354
. . ..	1,053	921	701	691	851	149
d	117	198	184	306	381	253
tralia	181	211	341	263	279	129
Australia	..	nil.	19	65	37	20
... ...	99	84	59	89	79	14
nd	*465	589	592	443	752	32
lasia	... .	2,679	2,528	2,836	3,550	951
		Death-rates per 10,000 living.				
h Wales . . .	.	2·04	1·50	1·89	1·92	0·91
. . ..	2 76	2 24	1 47	1·31	1·46	0 43
d	1·63	1·94	1·37	1·69	1 84	1 85
tralia .	1·85	1 74	2 32	1·70	1 67	1·21
Australia ...	. .	0 00	1·21	3·12	1 71	0 46
. . ..	1·92	1·54	0·96	1·30	1·03	0·28
nd . . .	*3·75	2 76	2 24	1·47	2·28	0 15
lasia . . .	....	2·15	1 69	1·60	1·78	0·74
		Proportion per cent. of Deaths to Total Deaths.				
h Wales	..	1·27	0·96	1·37	1·51	0·76
. . ..	1 76	1·47	1 05	0 82	1·04	0 30
d . .	0·91	1·15	0 72	1·09	1·43	1·46
tralia . .	1·17	1·17	1·58	2·94	1 37	1·02
Australia ..	....	0·00	0·70	1 95	1·05	0·27
.	1·23	0 93	0 60	0 86	0·78	0 23
nd . . .	*2 78	2 33	2·04	1·49	2 24	0 16
lasia	. .	1·43	1·14	1 15	1·40	0·59

* Four years, 1872-75.

ath-rate from whooping-cough, which has never been remark h, declined after the second quinquennium (1876-80), and rd remained fairly constant during the next fifteen years. st three years, however, the returns show a further gratifying in spite of the fact that the disease was mildly epidemic in the colonies in 1898. Generally speaking, whooping-cough has been most prevalent in New South Wales, South Aus- d New Zealand; but, on the whole, the rates up to the last very even amongst themselves in all the colonies. In Western the rate rose regularly to a maximum during 1886-90 a very de rate being experienced in 1886—and then declined.

Diphtheria.

Diphtheria, the last of the febrile diseases mentioned which mainly affect children, caused, in 1898, a total of 578 deaths, at the rate of 1·32 per 10,000 persons living. In the following table is shown the number of deaths in each colony, the death-rate, and the proportion borne to total deaths since 1870

State.	1871–75.	1876–80.	1881–85.	1886–90.	1891–95.	1896–8.
Number of Deaths.						
New South Wales		1,109	1,005	1,325	1,753	461
Victoria	1,609	1,431	681	1,885	994	396
Queensland	246	170	224	530	551	143
South Australia	379	329	387	370	513	81
Western Australia		11	28	19	38	03
Tasmania	124	329	96	182	208	36
New Zealand	*535	316	525	542	577	168
Australasia		3,695	2,946	5,053	4,634	1,554
Death-rate per 10,000 living.						
New South Wales		3·35	2·39	2·56	2·91	1·18
Victoria	4·21	3·48	1·43	3·58	1·71	1·71
Queensland	3·43	1·66	1·68	2·93	2·66	1·46
South Australia	3·85	2·72	2·63	3·69	3·06	0·76
Western Australia		0·79	1·78	0·91	1·14	1·29
Tasmania	2·41	6·05	1·57	2·66	2·70	0·71
New Zealand	*4·32	1·48	1·99	1·80	1·75	0·78
Australasia		2·96	1·96	2·85	2·32	1·20
Proportion per cent. of Deaths to Total Deaths.						
New South Wales		2·08	1·52	1·85	2·28	0·99
Victoria	2·60	2·28	1·02	2·23	1·21	1·20
Queensland	1·91	0·98	0·87	1·89	2·07	0·82
South Australia	2·45	1·83	1·79	2·34	2·52	0·64
Western Australia		0·55	1·03	0·57	0·70	0·94
Tasmania	1·54	3·68	0·98	1·75	2·05	0·58
New Zealand	*3·20	1·25	1·81	1·82	1·72	0·82
Australasia		1·97	1·33	2·05	1·82	0·97

* Four years 1872–75

resent rates for diphtheria, as compared with those of twenty or ive years ago, show a decrease. The decline, however, has been eans regular, owing to the fact that this disease, in common others affecting children, sometimes occurs as an epidemic. increase in the rates during 1886–90 over those prevailing in ious five years was due to an epidemic in nearly all the pro- 1890.

decreased mortality during the last twenty years, from the four just mentioned, together with croup, represents a gain of children to the population in every 10,000 persons living. provement is very gratifying, since it may be taken that cases diseases, which are particularly liable to be attended with as after-effects in the shape of lung and other local troubles, so numerous, and that in consequence the general health of the better. Tasmania seems to have suffered most from diphtheria, closely by Victoria, South Australia, and New South Wales, est Australia has been the most immune. The rate in Tasmania 1876–80 was very heavy, each one of the five years showing a , which suddenly decreased in 1881, and has remained much er since.

Croup.

, although classed as a disease of the respiratory system, was for- ssified with the zymotic diseases, and is included here on account milarity to diphtheria, and the confusion which often arises them, and of the deaths set down to a combination of both. disease that may be said to affect children only, and in 1898 he death of 212, or 0·48 per 10,000 of the population. In the ent table is shown the number of deaths in each colony, the te, and the proportion to total deaths since 1870:—

State.	1871–75.	1876–80.	1881–85.	1886–90.	1891–95.	1896–98.
Number of Deaths.						
h Wales	.. ..	968	971	951	683	214
	647	1,250	795	1,209	458	144
d . .	273	324	483	382	239	80
tralia	258	330	443	192	145	30
Australia .	.	24	31	45	64	21
	80	76	113	112	101	18
and . .	*281	277	334	340	304	121
nia	.. ..	3,249	3,170	3,231	1,994	628

Diphtheria.

Diphtheria, the last of the febrile diseases mention
affect children, caused, in 1898, a total of 578 death
1·32 per 10,000 persons living. In the following ta
number of deaths in each colony, the death-rate, and
borne to total deaths since 1870 :—

State.	1871–75	1876–80.	1881–85.	1886–90.
		Number of Deaths.		
New South Wales		1,109	1,005	1,325
Victoria	1,609	1,431	681	1,885
Queensland	246	170	224	356
South Australia ...	379	329	387	57
Western Australia . .	.	11	28	
Tasmania .	124	329	96	
New Zealand . .	*535	316	525	[illegible]
Australasia .	.	3,695	2,946	
		Death-rate per 10,000 liv		
New South Wales		3·35	2·39	
Victoria .. .	4·21	3·48	1·4	
Queensland	3·43	1·66	1·6	
South Australia . . .	3·88	2·72	2·[illegible]	
Western Australia . . .	.. .	0·79	1	
Tasmania ...	2·41	0·05	1	
New Zealand	*4 32	1·48	1	
Australasia	.. ..	2·96		
		Proportion per cent. of De		
New South Wales	.	2·08		
Victoria	2·39	2·2[illegible]		
Queensland	1·91	0·[illegible]		
South A . .	2·45	1		
W		0·		
	1·54			
	*3·20			

and the proportion of
hown below.

1896-98.

			8
			08
			66
			7,784
		1	6·36
		65	5·06
		25	8·27
		6·44	7·49
		9·70	12·15
		4·59	4·11
		3·87	4·00
	4	6·13	6·02

Deaths.

	6·05	4·94	5·30
	5·30	4·01	3·57
	10·22	7·99	6·53
	7·17	5·30	6·30
	7·53	5·95	7·16
4	5·82	3·50	3·35
46	6·01	3·82	4·27
8·14	6·77	4·80	4·86

2·76.

arked tendency to decline, having
g the last twenty years. The most
se of Queensland, where, during the
men, in the outlying portions of the
ably brought on by impure water,
protection from the weather, while at
ons are causing a high rate in Western
and climate have an effect on the death
proved from the fact that they are much

[illegible] summer than in any other [illegible] New Zealand, where the [illegible] lower than in Queensla[illegible] is very warm, and in son[illegible] whose climates are fairly te[illegible]

[illegible] from diarrhœa may be [illegible] skilful diagnosis in son[illegible] ailments of which d[illegible]

[illegible] Enteric Fever.

[illegible] disease, the poison of w[illegible] disease is more affec[illegible] drainage, it is a matter [illegible] it should be so heav[illegible] deaths in Australasia, or [illegible] the English rate of 1·82 [illegible] The table below [illegible] each colony, the deat[illegible] deaths, arranged in fi[illegible]

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1880-90.	1891-95.
[illegible]				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]307	1,533
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]209	1,571
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	513
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]66	369
			[illegible]	500
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	401	230
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]74	561
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]276	5,277
[illegible]				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	4·46	2·55
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	6·69	2·70
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	5·48	2·48
[illegible]	[illegible]	4·30	3·67	2·20
[illegible]			2·83	15·02
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	5·85	2·99
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	2·24	1·70
[illegible]	[illegible]	4·90	4·64	2·64

State.	1871-75.	1876-80	1881-85.	1886-90	1891-95.	1896-98.
Proportion per cent. of Deaths to Total Deaths.						
uth Wales . ..		3·23	3·23	3·23	2·00	2·61
. . . .	3·01	3·46	3·54	3·79	1·91	2·30
and	3·20	3·64	3·06	3·53	1·93	2·67
Australia . .	2·40	2·47	2·92	2·92	1·81	2·71
n Australia	.	.		1·77	9·21	14·05
ia	1·94	2·05	2·18	3·86	2·27	2·82
aland . . .	*3·78	2·92	2·15	2·27	1·67	1·73
tralasia	.	3·12	3·32	3·32	2·07	2·99

* Four years, 1872-1875.

ill be observed that the rates over the whole period covered by le show a decline, and that although there has been an increase the last three years, there was a marked decrease during the ng five years. Notwithstanding the epidemic nature of the the rates do not fluctuate greatly. In 1889 there was an e of enteric fever in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, mania, which helped to keep up the rates for 1886-90. During periods of the last eight years the rates in all the colonies, ng Western Australia, were fairly uniform, only ranging in 5 from 1·70 in New Zealand to 2·99 in Tasmania, and in 8 from 1·62 in New Zealand to 3·45 in Tasmania. Since the ics of 1887 and 1889 in Tasmania, typhoid seems to have been revalent there than in the other provinces, although Victoria eensland are not far behind. The case of Western Australia, typhoid is the cause of 15 per cent. of all deaths, deserves lar notice, the death-rate being as high as 25·38 per 10,000 having risen from 2·83 in the short space of ten years. In 1895 n Australia had its maximum typhoid death-rate with 35·46 000, but with improved sanitation the rate has since year by ched. Prior to 1894, the year in which the gold rush may be have commenced, the disease was little known in the western

In England and Wales since the measures which have been o improve the drainage and water supply the rate has steadily l from 3·74 in 1871-75 to 1·68 in 1896-98.

Parasitic Diseases.

deaths from parasitic diseases in Australasia during 1898 rd 209, and comprised 0·36 per cent. of the total causes of equal to a death-rate of 0·48 per 10,000 living. The chief

disease of this group is hydatids, which was responsible for 147 d
or 0·34 per 10,000 of the population, and was most common in Vi
and New South Wales, where the rates were 0·46 and 0·43 respect

Dietetic Diseases.

Dietetic diseases in 1898 carried off 670 persons, or at the r
1·53 per 10,000 living, and were the cause of 1·14 per cent.
total deaths, the chief contributing causes being privation and
perance.

Constitutional Diseases.

The next class of diseases is the constitutional, which caused in
9,004 deaths, or 15·37 per cent of the total, giving an average of
per 10,000 living. Of these diseases, phthisis and cancer stan
most prominently, and deserve special consideration.

Phthisis.

[illegible] more victims in the colonies than any other d
[illegible] this fact the death rates are lower than
[illegible] of the world. This is all the more pleasing when
[illegible] the Australian climate is undoubtedly favoura
[illegible] from pulmonary complaints, and that thereby
[illegible] with the disease, or predisposed to it, are attract
[illegible] hope of obtaining relief. It is estimated th
[illegible] who die of phthisis, 7 per cent. do so after less
[illegible] in the colonies. In 1898 phthisis caused
[illegible] Australasia, equal to a rate of 9·54 per 10,000 living.
[illegible] shows the number of deaths from this disease in
[illegible] the state rates, and the proportion of total deaths since
[illegible] in five-year periods:—

State.	1871-75.	1876-80.	1881-85.	1886-90.	1891-95.	1
	Number of Deaths.					
New South Wales	2,532	3,303	4,805	5,127	5,198	
Victoria	4,594	5,397	6,428	7,082	7,751	
Queensland	784	1,330	2,332	2,412	2,206	
South Australia	872	1,244	1,558	1,640	1,667	
Western Australia	*89	120	135	194	250	
Tasmania	522	536	658	671	658	
New Zealand	*1,080	1,805	2,418	2,529	2,093	
Australasia	.	13,795	18,334	20,235	20,483	1

State.	1871-75.	1876-80.	1881-85.	1886-90.	1891-95	1896-98.
Death-rate per 10,000 living.						
th Wales .	9·28	10·16	11·41	9·90	8·64	7·90
... .	12·02	13·13	14 10	14·55	13·32	12·37
al ..	10·93	13 01	17·31	13 35	10·93	9 39
stralia . ..	8·92	10·28	10 60	10·63	9·95	8 75
Australia . . .	*8·58	8·58	8·57	9·30	7·51	6·51
. . . . .	10·13	9·85	10·76	9·79	8·54	7·36
land . .	*8·72	8·46	9·15	8·39	8·15	7 93
ralasia . .	10·09	11·06	12·22	11·43	10·25	9·27
Proportion per cent. of Deaths to Total Deaths.						
th Wales	6·19	6·31	7·27	7·17	6·77	6 58
... . .	7·69	8·59	9·62	9·05	9·45	8 73
al .	6·00	7·69	9·06	8·60	8·52	7·41
stralia .	5·63	6·90	7·21	8·47	8·19	7·35
Australia .	*5·13	5·99	4·98	5 82	4·00	3·84
..	6·45	5·96	6·72	6·46	6·50	6·01
land	*6·46	7·14	8·32	8·50	8·03	8·47
ralasia . ..	6·61	7·35	8·26	8 19	8 04	7·49

* Four years, 1872-75.

he first half of the period covered by the table, phthisis seems to en on the increase; but since 1885 it has steadily decreased, mortality rate is now lower than that of England—where the over 13 per 10,000 living—or of any European country. This is very satisfactory, inasmuch as it shows the result of the ilful treatment consequent on the careful study which has been the disease during recent years, and proves the usefulness of ventive measures which have been taken against it. Phthisis ays been most prevalent in Victoria, but the death-rate in and is rather high, owing to the peculiar liability of natives of ific Islands to succumb to attacks of the disease. The returns at the deaths from consumption of these persons in Queensland of all proportion to their number in the population. Western a has, on the whole, had the lowest rate, and at the present rate is little more than half that of Victoria. New South Tasmania, and New Zealand also show satisfactory rates.

will be observed that with some slight irregularity the death-rate cancer has steadily risen in all the colonies over the whole period ed by the table, the largest increases being shown by Victoria and Zealand. For the first half of the period Tasmania had the st rate, but so rapid has been the progress of the disease in oria and New Zealand that the rates in both of these colonies are higher than that of Tasmania. With the exception of the period 1881 to 1890, Western Australia has always shown the lowest rates. though part of the increase may arise from the fact that more al diagnosis in recent years enables cancer to be ascribed as the of death in obscure malignant diseases more often than was erly the case, yet after making due allowance on this score, the usion must inevitably be arrived at that the spread of the disease ese colonies is a dread reality.

Developmental Diseases.

e deaths from developmental diseases in 1898 were 5,245 (8·95 ent. of the total), or 11·96 per 10,000 persons living, and of these s, 2,910, or 6·64 per 10,000 living, were ascribed to the vague cause, ge. Premature birth was set down as the cause of death of 1,465 s, a mortality equal to 12·44 per thousand children born alive, or every 80.

Local Diseases.

al diseases in 1898 were the cause of 46·53 per cent. of the total s, and averaged 62·18 per 10,000 living. This group comprises es of the various systems and special organs of the body, the ipal being diseases of the nervous system and of the circulatory m, which are further considered below. Under this heading also lassified diseases of the respiratory system, which caused 7,122 s, equal to 16·24 per 10,000; of the digestive system, responsible 6·55 deaths, or 15·18 per 10,000, and of the urinary system, the s from which numbered 2,035, equal to a rate of 4·66 per 10,000.

Diseases of the Nervous System

has been asserted that coincident with the advance of civilisation has been an increase in diseases of the nerves and brain, but from gures in the following table showing for each colony the number ths, the death rates, and the proportion of deaths to total deaths 1870, it will be seen that such has not been the case. Moreover, been ascertained that deaths from apoplexy and convulsions in rtion to population are now less frequent than formerly. In the total deaths from diseases of the nerves and brain numbered , or at the rate of 12·19 per 10,000 living.

State.	1871-75.	1876-80.	1881-85.	1886-90.	1891-95.	1896-
Number of Deaths.						
New South Wales	5,881	6,844	8,522	8,432	8,256	
Victoria	6,503	7,029	7,414	8,585	7,852	
Queensland	1,656	2,190	2,684	3,005	2,778	
South Australia	2,068	2,249	2,045	2,177	2,127	
Western Australia	*230	309	296	379	510	
Tasmania	1,133	1,238	1,577	1,388	1,210	
New Zealand	*1,850	2,614	3,244	3,320	3,528	
Australasia	22,473	26,382	27,286	26,261	1	
Death-rate per 10,000 living.						
New South Wales	21·56	20·67	20·23	16·28	13·73	
Victoria	17·02	17·10	16·26	16·30	13·49	
Queensland	23·09	21·42	19·93	16·63	13·40	
South Australia	21·15	18·59	17·99	14·11	12·70	
Western Australia	*22·17	22·09	18·79	18·16	15·32	
Tasmania	21·99	22·75	25·78	20·25	15·70	
New Zealand	*14·93	12·25	12·27	11·02	10·67	
Australasia	18·61	18·02	17·59	15·42	13·14	
Proportion per cent. of Deaths to Total Deaths.						
New South Wales	14·38	12·85	12·89	11·80	10·75	
Victoria	10·88	11·19	11·10	10·14	9·57	
Queensland	12·87	12·67	10·43	10·72	10·45	
South Australia	13·36	12·48	12·24	11·24	10·44	
Western Australia	*13·25	15·43	10·03	11·37	9·39	
Tasmania	14·06	13·76	16·11	13·36	11·95	
New Zealand	*11·07	10·35	11·16	11·16	10·52	
Australasia	12·10	11·98	11·89	11·05	10·30	

* Four years 1872-75.

A study of the table shows that the death rate for diseases of the nervous system in Australasia has decreased by over one third during the last twenty-five years, representing a gain of 6 persons to the population in every 10,000 living. Amongst the various colonies the rates are now remarkably even, only ranging from 10·51 in New Zealand, which has always had the lowest rate, to 13·52 in Tasmania, which has always had the highest, whereas twenty years ago the rates between the same colonies was from 12·25 to 22·75.

Diseases of the Circulatory System.

...s of the heart, which now command more attention than ...y on account of their more frequent occurrence, and also on ...of the better knowledge of the organ which now exists, were ...e in 1898 for 4,940 deaths, or 11·27 per 10,000 living. The table shows the number of deaths in each colony from these the death-rates, and the proportion of total deaths since

State	1871-75.	1876-80.	1881-85.	1886-90.	1891-95.	1896-98.
Number of Deaths.						
...h Wales ...	2,197	2,755	3,262	4,289	4,826	3,317
...	3,138	3,666	4,453	6,198	7,365	4,745
...l ...	444	586	991	1,406	1,575	1,319
...ralia ...	649	934	1,180	1,359	1,605	1,159
...ustralia ...	*102	147	201	239	408	459
... ...	499	578	700	799	875	612
...nd ...	*795	1,422	1,762	2,284	2,767	2,178
...lasia		10,088	12,549	16,574	19,421	13,789
Death-rate per 10,000 living.						
...h Wales ...	8·05	8·32	7·74	8·28	8·02	8·51
... ...	8·21	8·42	9·77	11·77	12·66	13·58
...l ...	6·19	5·73	7·36	7·78	7·60	9·65
...ralia ...	6·64	7·72	8·03	8·81	9·58	10·87
...ustralia ...	*9·83	10·51	12·76	11·45	12·26	10·56
... ...	9·69	10·62	11·44	11·66	11·46	12·08
...nd ...	*6·42	6·86	6·67	7·58	8·37	10·06
...lasia ...	7·53	8·09	8·37	9·36	9·72	10·66
Proportion per cent. of Deaths to Total Deaths.						
...h Wales ...	5·37	5·17	4·93	6·00	6·28	7·09
... ...	5·25	5·84	6·67	7·32	8·95	9·58
...l ...	3·45	3·39	3·85	5·01	5·93	7·62
...ralia ...	4·19	5·18	5·46	7·02	7·88	9·14
...ustralia ...	*5·88	7·34	7·42	7·17	7·51	6·22
... ...	6·19	6·43	7·15	7·69	8·04	9·86
...nd ...	*4·76	5·63	6·06	7·68	8·25	10·74
...lasia ...	4·94	5·38	5·66	6·71	7·62	9·61

* Four years, 1873-7.

[illegible] deaths from the diseases of the organs of circu[illegible] increased during the last twenty [illegible] whether the increase shown is not partly [illegible] many deaths formerly attributed to [illegible] some more definite cause. The highest dea[illegible] Victoria and Tasmania, which is, perhaps, expla[illegible] of the heart mainly affect persons of mid[illegible] and these two colonies have the largest proportio[illegible] New South Wales and Queensland have [illegible] other three colonies, South Australia, West[illegible] and New Zealand, are all fairly equal.

Deaths in Childbirth.

[illegible] under the heading of local diseases are diseases of par[illegible] together with puerperal fever, a septic disease of [illegible] the causes of death of women in childbed [illegible] these diseases averaged 1 in every 170 births, whi[illegible] from the ratio to confinements, as some births [illegible] The table below gives the number of deaths from th[illegible] since 1872, and the deaths per 1,000 births, [illegible] stating the rate.

[illegible]	1873-77	1878-82	1883-87	1888-92	1893-97.	189[illegible]
Number of Deaths.						
New South Wales	*448	555	833	824	1,336	256
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	895	916	943	170
[illegible]	[illegible]	244	311	368	317	62
[illegible]	[illegible]	255	241	217	263	60
[illegible]	32	27	31	25	58	26
[illegible]	123	74	88	88	106	29
New Zealand	367	435	582	464	459	91
Australasia		2,489	2,981	2,902	3,482	694
Death-rate per 1,000 Births.						
New South Wales	*6·43	3·90	4·79	4·24	6·96	7·0[illegible]
[illegible]	7·42	6·74	5·96	4·96	5·61	5·6[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	6·07	5·33	5·00	4·43	4·4[illegible]
[illegible]	5·32	5·00	4·22	4·06	5·13	6·7[illegible]
[illegible]	7·48	5·54	4·86	3·01	4·32	5·2[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	3·94	3·85	3·62	4·39	6·3[illegible]
New Zealand	5·13	4·68	5·99	5·06	4·96	4·8[illegible]
Australasia		5·18	5·27	4·60	5·68	5·9[illegible]

* 1873-77.

The rate showed a tendency to decline up till 1893, since when it has risen. The statistics presented above, however, are not as reliable as they might be, for the reason that medical attendants do not take sufficient care when furnishing the certificate required of them by law to state the real cause of death: for instance, it is believed that the cause *puerperal* is omitted in many cases, especially of pyæmia and septicæmia where death occurred in childbirth. The New South Wales returns since 1892 have been compiled with great care, and are perhaps nearest to the truth, while the Victorian figures are also fairly reliable.

Deaths from Violence.

Deaths by violence in 1898 numbered 3,878, equal to 6·62 per cent. of the total deaths, or at the rate of 8·85 per 10,000 living. Of these, more than 83 per cent. were the results of accidents or negligence, and nearly 14 per cent. were due to suicide; further information with respect to which will be found in the chapter "Social Condition."

Accidents.

The total number of persons who died in 1898 from accidents was 2,[illegible] or 7·39 per 10,000 living. The following table shows the number of deaths in each colony from this cause, the death-rates, and the proportion of total deaths since 1870:—

State.	1871-75.	1876-80.	1881-85.	1886-90.	1891-95.	1896-98.
	Number of Deaths.					
New South Wales	2,982	3,560	4,174	4,542	4,520	2,978
Victoria	3,908	3,539	3,062	4,012	4,202	2,392
New Zealand	1,134	1,389	1,874	2,039	2,349	1,473
South Australia	610	877	919	1,038	912	689
Western Australia	*106	184	184	277	400	535
Tasmania	492	497	441	551	560	384
New Zealand	*1,250	2,200	2,216	2,369	2,404	1,457
Australasia	...	12,255	13,470	16,028	15,437	9,908
	Death-rate per 10,000 living.					
New South Wales	10·93	10·78	9·91	8·77	7·51	7·64
Victoria	10·23	8·61	8·03	8·76	7·32	6·84
New Zealand	15·81	13·59	13·91	14·60	11·33	10·78
South Australia	6·24	7·25	6·25	6·73	5·45	6·46
Western Australia	*10·22	13·16	11·68	13·28	12·02	12·31
Tasmania	9·55	9·13	7·21	8·04	6·49	7·58
New Zealand	*10·16	10·31	8·38	7·86	7·55	6·73
Australasia	10·10	9·83	8·98	9·06	7·72	7·66

[illegible]	[illegible]	1876-80.	1881-85.	1886-90.	1891-95.	[illegible]
[illegible] per cent. of Deaths to Total Deaths.						
[illegible]	7·29	6·70	6·31	6·36	5·89	[illegible]
[illegible]	6·54	5·63	5·48	5·45	5·19	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	8·04	7·28	9·41	8·84	[illegible]
[illegible]	3·94	4·87	4·25	5·36	4·48	[illegible]
[illegible]	*6·11	9·19	6·79	8·31	7·37	[illegible]
[illegible]	6·10	5·53	4·50	5·30	4·94	[illegible]
[illegible]	*7·53	8·71	7·62	7·96	7·44	[illegible]
[illegible]	6·62	6·53	6·07	6·49	6·06	[illegible]

* Four years, 1872-75.

[illegible] from accidents have fallen considerably, as the ta[illegible] no means low, and none of the colo[illegible] rate as that of England and Wales, viz., 5·5 [illegible] Western Australia and Queensland, which have [illegible] show the largest rates, while New So[illegible] [illegible] next, followed by Victoria, New Zeala[illegible] where accidents seem always to have been [illegible] The most common accid[illegible] [illegible] and drowning, the last mentio[illegible] [illegible] in Queensland every year, the [illegible] being due to the great number [illegible] drowned in 1890.

Marriages.

[illegible] of marriages and the marriage rate per thousand of [illegible] each colony during the year 1899 are shown below —

State	Marriages	Marriage rate.
New South Wales	9,275	6·89
[illegible]	8,140	7·01
[illegible]	3,449	7·23
[illegible] Australia	2,276	6·19
[illegible] Australia	1,671	9·85
[illegible]	1,147	6·38
New Zealand	5,461	7·28
Australasia	31,419	7·06

[illegible] the marriage rate increased in all the colonies with [illegible] of Western Australia, while in every case it was higher [illegible] for the preceding ten years. Taken in conjunction w[illegible] price of exports, this increase in the marriage-rate may [illegible] as a sure sign of returning prosperity to these colonies.

... of Austral-
... the four years

		1886-90.	1891-95.	1896-99.
		38,671	39,924	35,371
	[illegible]	42,832	37,717	30,839
	[illegible]	15,[illegible]71	13,[illegible]26	12,138
	[illegible]79	10,[illegible]54	10,[illegible]86	8,633
	1,112	1,495	2,[illegible]32	6,[illegible]81
	5,005	4,[illegible]96	4,[illegible]24	4,260
	18,102	18,097	20,21[illegible]	20,323
[illegible]3	117,556	131,498	128,919	117,645

... colony during the same periods
... ne ratio of marriages to population;
... arried it is necessary to double the

	1871-75.	1876-80.	1881-85.	1886-90.	1891-95.	1896-99.
[illegible]	7·77	7·82	8·46	7·47	6·64	6·74
[illegible]	6·78	6·03	7·37	8·[illegible]3	6·48	6·62
[illegible]	8·75	7·30	8·64	8·45	6·[illegible]3	6·58
[illegible]	7·64	8·83	8·42	6·70	6·29	5·96
[illegible]	6·48	6·99	7·06	7·16	7·01	10·07
[illegible]	6·39	7·51	8·18	7·00	5·87	6·21
[illegible]	8·05	7·60	6·85	6·00	6·11	6·97
7·61	7·27	7·28	7·84	7·43	6·44	6·76

... years ended 1895 the marriage-rate fell considerably ... With the exception of New Zealand it was lower ... than during the preceding quinquennial period, and ... than during the five years 1881-85, while during ... years the rate rose again in every colony except South ... is another proof of the truth of the oft-repeated ... commercial depression always exerts an adverse influence ... rate. The abnormal rise in the case of Western ... what might be expected from the large number of men ... industrial activity in that colony has placed in a position to ... shoulders the responsibility of a household.

... is the great institution by which the birth-rate is ... and through which the population is regulated, it will not ... to consider the fertility of marriages in the colonies ... elements influencing this are the age at marriage of the ... ally of the mother, and the duration of married life. ... marriage of bridegrooms in Australasia is a little over ... brides about 24·5 years, and it is known that these ... increasing for some years past. As regards the

[illegible] certainty; al[illegible] [illegible] person [illegible] The fertilit[illegible] [illegible] marriage [illegible] the mea[illegible] [illegible] the averag[illegible] [illegible] the followin[illegible] [illegible] each quir[illegible] [illegible] preceding fiv[illegible]

[illegible] M[illegible]

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	5·87	5·01	4·80	4·28
[illegible]	[illegible]	5·26	4·88	3·99	3·86
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	5·76	4·54	4·94
[illegible]	[illegible]	5·19	4·19	4·97	4·22
[illegible]	[illegible]	5·35	6·62	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	5·01	4·56	4·93	4·75
[illegible]	[illegible]	5·77	5·03	4·86	4·46
[illegible]	[illegible]	5·59	4·96	4·53	4·26

[illegible] from the table during the latter [illegible] into that colony since the [illegible] increased the number of births [illegible] of the preceding five years, [illegible] the marriages of that colony [illegible] are. Of course, it is admitted [illegible] the fecundity of marriages is [illegible] cannot be very far from the truth, as [illegible] Wales, where accurate computations [illegible] to be expected from the present [illegible]04. The table shows that, on the [illegible] been steadily declining since 1885, [illegible] remarked in dealing with this

[illegible] the Australasian colonies will be [illegible] condition."

[illegible]ACES.

[illegible]79 aborigines were enumerated, of [illegible] 565 in Victoria, 23,789 in South [illegible] Australia. The figures relating to [illegible] included all aborigines living in those [illegible] the other colonies were very imperfect.

es of Tasmania are extinct, but the Tasmanian census of rated 139 half-castes, who were included in the general It has been asserted that there are some 70,000 aborienslaud, but this is a very crude estimate, and may be far truth. In the case of South Australia, a large number of s in the Northern Territory are entirely outside the bounds , and it seems probable that they are as numerous in that Queensland. The census of Western Australia included boriginals in the employment of the colonists, and as large this, the greatest in area of all the Australasian colonies, explored, it may be presumed that the number of aborigines was very far short of the total in the colony. Altogether, l population of the continent may be set down at something An approximate census by the police of the aboriginal s at the end of 1898, gave the number of blacks and half ew South Wales as 6,891, and a similar enumeration in stralia of those in contact with whites as 12,183; while in Victoria at the same date was estimated at 449

nal inhabitants of New Zealand, or Maoris, as they are quite a different race from the aborigines of Australia. fted with a considerable amount of intelligence, are quick and brave even to rashness. According to the census y numbered 44,097; but, like the Australian aborigines, to be decreasing in number, for the census of 1886 only 41,432; that of 1891, 41,993; and that of 1896, ely, 21,673 males and 18,181 females. In the 1896 figures 3,503 half-castes living as members of Maori tribes (1,944 1,559 females), and 20 Morioris at Chatham Islands (11 females). Half castes to the number of 2,259 (1,123 males males), living with Europeans at the time of the census, ated as Europeans It is said that when the colonists first New Zealand the number of Maoris was fully 120,000, but other estimates of aboriginal population, is founded on very formation.

Alien Races.

sus of 1891 the Chinese and half-caste Chinese in the whole nies numbered 42,521, distributed as follows:

South Wales	14,156
ria	9,377
aland	8,574
Australia	3,997
rn Australia	917
nia	1,056
Zealand	4,444
Australasia	42,521

Since 1880 it has been deemed expedient by the Governments of colonies to enact prohibitive laws against the immigration of Ch and their migration from one colony to another. For several y poll tax of £10 was imposed, but now, in New South Wale accordance with the most recent legislation on the subject, mast vessels are forbidden under a heavy penalty to bring more tha Chinese to every 300 tons, and a poll tax of £100 is charged on la In Victoria, Queensland, and South Australia no poll tax is im but masters of vessels may bring only one Chinese to every 50(burden. The Western Australian Act was similar to that in the last named colonies until recently, but has now been superseded Coloured Immigrants Restriction Act. Tasmania allows one C passenger to every 100 tons, and imposes a poll tax of £10. In Zealand an Act similar to the Tasmanian Act was in force until when the poll tax was raised to £100, and the number of passe restricted to one for every 200 tons burden. These stringent regula have had the effect of greatly restricting the influx of this undesi class of immigrants, but it is to be feared that the census of 1901 disclose the fact that the Restriction Acts have not been so effect in shutting out the Chinese from Australasia as the shipping returns the colonies would lead one to suppose.

The only other alien race which the census of 1891 disclosed to present in large numbers in Australasia was the Polynesians Queensland, where they numbered 9,428.

According to a census taken in Queensland on 31st October, 189 there were in that colony the following numbers of coloured aliens

Chinese	8,051
Pacific Islanders	8,617
Japanese	3,247
Javanese, and other Asiatic races	1,438
Total	21,353

Since 1891 there has been an influx of Hindoos and other easter races sufficiently large to cause a feeling of uneasiness amongst colonists, and in some of the colonies Parliament dealt with the evil by passing legislation which, in the main, meted out to these immigrants the treatment accorded to the Chinese. But a very large proportion of the Asiatics whose entrance into the colonies it was desired to stop were British subjects, and the Imperial Government refused to sanction any measure directly prohibiting in plain terms the movement of British subjects from one part of the empire to another. Eventually the difficulty was overcome by the application of an educational test to the coloured races seeking admission to the colonies, whereby they are required to write out in some European language an application to the Colonial Secretary. This provision, which is said to have been effectual in Natal, is taken from an Act in operation in that colony

An Act applying the educational test has been in force in Western Australia since the beginning of 1898; similar Acts have now been passed and are in operation in the other colonies

Naturalisation.

The Acts relating to the naturalisation of aliens do not differ very materially in any of the colonies. In New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, and New Zealand aliens may hold and acquire both real and personal property, but may not qualify for any office nor have any rights or privileges except such as are expressly conferred upon them, while in Queensland and Tasmania they may hold personal property, but lands for twenty-one years only.

In every colony except New South Wales, South Australia, and Queensland every alien of good repute residing within the colony who desires to become naturalised may present a memorial signed by himself, and verified upon oath, stating his name, age, birthplace, residence, occupation, and length of residence in the colony, and his desire to settle therein, together with all other grounds on which he seeks to obtain the rights of naturalisation, and apply for a certificate, which the Governor may grant if he thinks fit. After the letters of naturalisation have been received and the oath of allegiance taken, the holder becomes entitled to all the privileges which are conferred upon subjects of Her Majesty. In New South Wales it is insisted that the applicant must have resided for at least five years before he can be naturalised, and he must present, together with his own statutory declaration stating his name, age, birthplace, occupation and residence, a like declaration of some other person as to his term of residence in New South Wales. In South Australia six months' residence is compulsory, while in Queensland an Asiatic or African alien must be married and have his wife living in the colony, and must have resided in the colony for three years, when he must present a similar memorial to that cited above. If the application is granted, he becomes entitled to all privileges except that of becoming a member of the Legislature.

In all the colonies any alien woman marrying a natural-born subject becomes and is deemed to be naturalised, and any person resident in the colony who has obtained a certificate of naturalisation in any British possession, and who presents such certificate, and further satisfies the Governor that he is the person named in the certificate, and that such was obtained without fraud, may be granted a certificate of naturalisation without any further residence in the colony being required of him.

The rights of naturalisation are refused the Chinese in some of the colonies, viz., New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and Western Australia. Germans have availed themselves most largely of the privileges, having taken out about one half of the certificates granted.

The number of persons naturalised in Australasia during 1898 was 1,760, more than three-quarters took out papers of naturalisation in

the colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, and Queensland. The figures for the other four colonies are small. The following are the ret[illegible] for each colony:—

State.	[illegible]	Scandinavians.	Chinese.	Others.	Total.
New South Wales	[illegible]	38		135	277
[illegible]	[illegible]	61		129	334
[illegible]	[illegible]	21	2	97	342
[illegible]	[illegible]	11		34	94
[illegible]	9	10		26	45
[illegible]	4	2	45	4	55
[illegible]	31	22	4	56	113
[illegible]	563	165	51	481	1,260

Centralisation of Population.

[illegible] the chief cities of Australasia has been no less rem[illegible] of the colonies themselves, and has no parallel among [illegible] world. Even in America the rise of the great cities [illegible] by a corresponding increase in the rural population, [illegible] perhaps for the first time in history, was presented [illegible] of magnificent cities growing with marvellous rapidity, [illegible] within their limits one-third of the population of the st[illegible] are the seat of government. The abnormal aggregat[illegible] population into their capital cities is a most unfortunate elem[illegible] the progress of the colonies, and one which until recently seem[illegible] to become every year more marked. Latterly this growth appear[illegible] [illegible], and the proportion of population in the capital citie[illegible] [illegible] less than in 1891.

One satisfactory feature in connection with the growth of populat[illegible] in the chief cities of Australia is that such increase has not taken pl[illegible] through absorption of the rural population. As in all new count[illegible] the tendency has been for immigrants to settle in or near the princ[illegible] towns which mostly lie near the seaboard, and owing to the fact t[illegible] these colonies possess no good navigable waterways leading from [illegible] interior, aggregation of population in the cities tends to be still furt[illegible] [illegible]centuated.

...of Australasia and ...census periods, ...wing table, which

...1	1891.	1899.
...24,939	383,283	438,300
...282,947	490,896	477,790
31,109	93,657	110,951
...103,864	133,252	149,672
...14 5,822	8,447	34,610
...092 21,118	33,450	41,585
...,908 20,563	33,224	47,862

‡ In 1850.

...ost marked in the cases of Mel... also conspicuous. The other cities ...rtion of the people resident in ...all. The proportion of population ...of the whole colony is shown below ...d 1899 :—

...1.	1881.	1891.	1899.
...r cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
27·34	29·93	33·80	32·31
28·27	32·81	43·05	41·07
12·51	14·57	23·79	23·00
23·03	37·11	41·59	40·38
20·68	19·80	16·97	20·24
18·76	18·25	22·81	22·81
3·08	4·20	5·30	6·33

...ngton is the capital of New Zealand it is exceeded in ...ckland, and by Dunedin ; while Christchurch is very ..., even in the largest of these cities Auckland- -the ...more than 8·18 per cent., and in the four together is ...cent. of that of the whole colony.

The following is a list of the cities and most important towns of Australasia, with their estimated population on 31st December, 1[illegible]; in all cases the suburbs are included. In Queensland, the populations quoted are those of the municipalities, except in the case of Brisbane.

City or Town.	Population.	City or Town.	Population.
New South Wales—		South Australia—	
[illegible]	45[illegible]	[illegible]delaide	131,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Port Adelaide	18,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	*Port Pirie	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	*Mount Gambier ..	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]		
[illegible]	[illegible]	Western Australia—	
[illegible]	[illegible]	Perth .	30,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Fremantle	16,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Kalgoorlie and surrounds (Boulder) .. .	14,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Kanowna	9,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Coolgardie .	5,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Albany ..	3,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]		
[illegible]	[illegible]	Tasmania—	
[illegible]	[illegible]	Hobart . .	41,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Launceston .	26,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Mersey Harbour	25,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Beaconsfield .	2,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]		
[illegible]	[illegible]	New Zealand—	
[illegible]	[illegible]	Auckland	72,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Dunedin .	49,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Wellington	47,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Christchurch	45,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Napier	9,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Nelson	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Wanganui	6,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Palmerston North .	6,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Invercargill .	5,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Oamaru .	5,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Thames	5,[illegible]
[illegible]	5,000		

* Exclusive of suburbs.

[illegible] Harbour in Tasmania, embraces the main great [illegible] Queenstown, Zeehan, and Strahan (the ports).

[illegible] statement shows clearly where the people have settled. [illegible] the capitals, there are only six cities in the whole [illegible] with a population of over 40,000, viz., Newcastle, 55,[illegible] and [illegible], Dunedin, 49,791, Ballarat, 46,410, Christchurch [illegible] Melbourne, 45,112, and of these six, three are in New Zealand.

census of 1891, as at previous
population. The result of the
differences in the component parts
s, these differences are slight, and
the extent, indeed, of fully 95 per
ly the population of Australasia is
European countries; for even in
n descent are proportionately more
colonies, they do not amount to more
nation.

tralasian-born population were natives
ich they were enumerated The per
the colony in which they were resident
those born in the other six Australasian
Australasian born population to the total
e shown below :—

	Percentage to Total Population of—		
	Natives of Colony of Enumeration.	Natives of other Colonies.	Australasian born Population.
	64·51	7·47	71·98
	62·56	6·75	69·31
	44·95	7·14	52·09
	67·95	3·45	71·40
	55·89	6·53	62·42
	73·57	4·97	78·54
	58·52	2·54	61·06
	61·44	5·96	67·40

w that proportionately the largest Australasian-born
found in Tasmania, where more than 73 out of every
tants were born in the colony, and over 78 per cent.
s. In Queensland, on the contrary, very nearly half
ere natives of countries outside Australasia, and only
ere Queenslanders by birth. The low proportion of
the colony in question is no doubt accounted for by the
cent settlement of much of its territory, and the encou
to immigrants from the United Kingdom and the Conti-
It will be noticed that New South Wales has proved
ractive of all the provinces to those born in other parts of
while New Zealand, from its isolated position and greater
drawn to itself the smallest proportion of Australasian

born population, natives of the United K
most numerous class in each colony. The follo
percentages of natives of England and Wales, Scotl
population of each colony :—

State.	Natives of England and Wales.	Natives of Scotland.	Natives of Ireland.	Natives of United Kingdom.
	13·71	3·28	6·68	23·67
	14·29	4·45	7·48	26·22
	19·80	5·69	10·93	36·42
	15·24	2·77	4·48	[illegible]
	19·71	2·43	7·03	29·17
	11·[illegible]	2·62	3·58	18·39
	19·04	8·28	7·60	34·92
	15·51	4·62	7·23	27·36

expected that the percentage of natives of the Uni
highest in those colonies which had introduced
assisted immigrants during the last twenty years, nam
New Zealand, and Western Australia, in which colo
the native-born population was comparatively low
the population of the United Kingdom be tak
it will be seen that Scotch and Irish colonists
much more numerous than those of English birth.
natives of the three kingdoms is very unequal in
While natives of England are proportionately m
than natives of Scotland and Ireland in South Austral
Victoria, and Tasmania, Scotsmen are most numerou
and Irishmen in Queensland.

the natives of Germany were the most numero
Sweden and Norway, the United Stat
Russia, Switzerland, Austria Hungary,
Spain, and Belgium, while Polynesians
Queensland. The percentages to the total populatio
natives of Germany, of the Scandinavian Kingdo
Norway and Denmark), and of the total foreign bo
are shown in the subjoined table :—

State.	Percentage of— Germans.	Scandinavians.	Total Foreign-born Population
New South Wales	0·85	0·43	3·38
	0·95	0·40	2·08
	3·79	1·28	8·02
Australia	2·67	0·45	4·88
Australia	0·58	0·49	3·91
	0·63	0·23	1·82
Zealand	0·74	0·76	2·97
Australasia	1·31	0·56	3·74

It will be seen that both Germans and Scandinavians are proportionately most numerous in Queensland, where together they amount to more than 5 per cent. of the population. Germans are also very numerous in South Australia, and Scandinavians in New Zealand

Conjugal Condition.

At the Hobart Census Conference, held in 1890, it was decided to tabulate the conjugal condition of the people under the heads of "Never married," "Married," "Widowed," and "Divorced"; but this decision was not adhered to by South Australia and New Zealand, where the divorced were probably included under the heading of unmarried. For the sake of comparison a similar classification has therefore been made in the tabulation of the other colonies. The people who returned themselves as "divorced" on the census schedules of the various colonies were very few in number, and it is reasonable to assume that these numbers were wide of the truth, no doubt owing to the reluctance on the part of many people whose marriage bonds have been severed to return themselves as "divorced" in the census schedules.

The following table shows for each colony the proportion of unmarried, married, and widowed males to total males; of unmarried, married, and widowed females to total females; and of unmarried, married, and widowed persons to total population:—

Percentage of	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.	Australasia.
MALES								
Unmarried	69·81	68·31	72·08	68·38	72·03	67·88	70·39	69·57
Married	27·41	28·58	25·90	29·34	24·08	28·03	27·26	27·74
Widowed	2·78	3·11	2·02	2·28	3·89	4·15	2·35	2·69
FEMALES								
Unmarried	62·89	61·86	62·10	63·07	63·51	63·31	64·93	62·88
Married	32·11	32·07	33·00	31·44	31·05	30·18	30·45	31·97
Widowed	5·00	6·07	3·90	5·49	4·44	5·71	4·12	5·15
PERSONS								
Unmarried	66·04	65·24	67·80	66·84	69·01	65·72	67·83	66·46
Married	29·56	30·24	29·45	30·34	27·42	29·07	28·09	29·70
Widowed	4·39	4·52	2·85	3·82	3·57	4·35	4·18	3·84

From the foregoing figures it will be seen that unmarried males are only in excess of unmarried females in each colony. The excess at the end of 1899, supposing the proportions deduced from the census to

[illegible] number of unmarried females to 1,000 unmar[illegible] shown in the following table :—

[illegible]	Excess of Unmarried Males over Unmarried Females.	Number of Unmarried Females to 1,000 Unmarried Males.
[illegible]	114,200	776
[illegible]	36,100	909
[illegible]	59,000	694
[illegible]	21,900	835
[illegible]	44,200	458
[illegible]	14,000	791
[illegible]	48,300	828
[illegible]	337,700	798

[illegible] proportion of unmarried females is low in Western Austra[illegible] has attracted much population from the other provinces, an[illegible] Queensland, while it is high in Victoria, which has lost lar[illegible] emigration, and is near the average in the other colonies wh[illegible] neither gained population to any extent. Thus fact sh[illegible] the movement of population during the last few years has b[illegible] young unmarried males attracted from one colony to anot[illegible] the hope of bettering their condition.

[illegible] numbers of married males and females, still supposing the cen[illegible] returns to be at good, are fairly equal in all the colonies, except[illegible] Western Australia, where married males largely preponderate, a[illegible] Victoria, where the females are in the majority. As regards the ot[illegible] colonies, the married females are more numerous, except in So[illegible] Australia and Tasmania.

Amongst the widowed, females largely outnumber males, as was to [illegible] expected from the higher death-rate and the proportionately lar[illegible] number of males remarried. Western Australia, however, show[illegible] slight excess of widowers over widows.

Sickness and Infirmity.

[illegible] were made in the 1891 census schedules respecting t[illegible] number of persons suffering from sickness and infirmity, but there [illegible] reason to believe that, in some of the colonies at least, the way in wh[illegible] the returns was filled in was unsatisfactory. The figures for New So[illegible] Wales, Victoria, and South Australia may be compared throughout, [illegible] the classification adopted was practically the same, and to a cert[illegible] extent this also holds good of the Western Australian and Tasmani[illegible] figures. The returns for Queensland are made in a somewhat indefin[illegible] way, and in New Zealand half the number of persons returned as [illegible]

includes all ages, while the other half only includes the of 15 years and over. The following table shows the results lation for each of the colonies :—

and Infirmity	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand
. . .	851	1,097	*	300	*	*	468
. . . . .	339	420	*	138	18	37	232
. . . . .	15	[illegible]	*	[illegible]	*	*	*
undefined . .	10,117	13,127	*	3,620	487	2,579	†4,404
otal . . .	11,322	14,647	2,969	4,061	505	2,616	5,104
.	1,459	1,608	777	432	62	152	‡679
ab .	383	364	154	234	11	54	166
. . . . .	9	*	*	*	*	*	*
. . . . .	1,348	627	*	101	*	*	268
. . .	741	995	109	247	54	165	274
. .	3,129	3,770	1,104	852	129	383	1,798
. . . .	286	355	*	84	7	46	128
. . .	1,775	346	*	186	*	*	979
. .	635	754	*	251	35	*	*
an eye	1,164	1,157	*	339	79	*	*
otal . . .	22,251	24,683	5,203	6,787	882	3,416	9,396

under more general heading. † Of this number, 4,130 persons refer to the 15 years only, while 274 persons refer to the whole population. ‡ Popu ars only.

RELIGION.

The [illegible] of all matters relating to denominational Religi[illegible] years of Australasian settlement has been ste[illegible]. For the first fifteen years after the foundation of [illegible] New South Wales, only a single denomination was recogn[illegible] possessed either minister or organisation the Est[illegible] Church of England. In those days the whole of Australasia w[illegible] within the diocese of the Bishop of Calcutta, of w[illegible] this continued until 1836, when the Bishop[illegible] Australia first, and the Rev. William Grant Broughton, D[illegible], was consecrated the first Bishop. In 184[illegible] of New Zealand was established, and in 1842 that of T[illegible]. Further changes took place in 1847, when the dioceses [illegible] including South Australia and Western A[illegible] New South Wales (excluding the northern portion of what is no[illegible] Wales and the whole of Queensland) were established u[illegible] Australia was styled Bishop of Sydney and Metropolitan [illegible] and Tasmania. In 1857 the diocese of Perth was [illegible] and in 1859 the diocese of Brisbane out of [illegible]. In 1863 the bishopric of Goulburn was separate[illegible] 1867 the bishopric of Grafton and Armidale was [illegible] diocese of Newcastle; in 1869 Bathurst was separat[illegible] in 1875 Victoria was divided into the two dioceses [illegible] and Ballarat; in 1878 the bishopric of Northern Queensl[illegible] with Townsville as seat of its Bishop, in 1884 [illegible]; Riverina was formed out of parts of the dioceses [illegible] and Goulburn, and in 1892 parts of the bishop[illegible] Northern Queensland were formed into the new dioc[illegible]. While the six dioceses of New South Wales w[illegible] under a provincial constitution, with the Bishop of Sydney [illegible], no such union existed in Victoria or Queensland, and t[illegible] of the Lambeth Conference of 1897, granting the ti[illegible] Colonial Metropolitans applied, therefore, only to Sydn[illegible] Bishop formally became Archbishop of Sydney.

New South Wales preserves its autonomy in church matters, but t[illegible] Bishop of Sydney is nominal head or Primate within the boundari[illegible] Victoria and Tasmania. In 1872 the ties between the church[illegible] the various colonies under the jurisdiction of the Primacy w[illegible] strengthened by the adoption of one common constitution. A gene[illegible] Synod of representatives of each of these colonies meets in Sydn[illegible] every five years to discuss Church affairs in general. New Zealand

·al possesses a Primacy of its own.
· Zealand was appointed in 1841.
· on of the Church in New Zealand
the whole colony was divided into the
Napier), Wellington, Nelson, Christ-
leparture of Bishop Selwyn, who has
·aland, the Primacy was transferred to
remained until 1895. In that year the
Primate of New Zealand. The mission-
·e head-quarters are at Norfolk Island, is
New Zealand primacy. At present, there-
hops in the colonies, including the Bishop
·ssistant bishops. The Synodical system of
·ns of a legislative body, consisting of the
of the laity, prevails throughout Australasia,
·nies and as a group.
·cognition was extended to Roman Catholics,
·as for some time placed on the Government
·s not until 1820 that any regular provision was
·ntation of the clergy of this body. Until 1834
· Australia and Tasmania were under the juris-
of Mauritius (the Rev. Dr. Ullathorne being
1830 to 1834), but in that year Sydney was
the Rev. John Bede Polding, D.D., was conse-
·risdiction over the whole of the Continent and
· Hobart was established as a separate diocese, and
archiepiscopal see. The diocese of Adelaide dates
Perth from 1845, and those of Melbourne, Maitland,
Wellington from 1848. During this year a diocese
the Northern Territory of South Australia, which
been designated the diocese of Port Victoria and
The bishopric of Brisbane was founded in 1859, and
in 1864. In 1867 the Abbey-nullius of New Norcia
·tralia) was established. The dioceses of Armidale and
from 1869, and those of Ballarat and Sandhurst from
·76 Melbourne became an archdiocese, and Cooktown was
a Vicariate-Apostolic. Other changes took place in Queens-
·2, when the diocese of Rockhampton was founded, and in
the Vicariate-Apostolic of British New Guinea (with
Thursday Island) was established. In 1885 the Archbishop
was created a cardinal, and placed at the head of the Roman
Church throughout Australasia. Following upon this appoint
·eat alterations took place in the arrangement of dioceses in
the new dioceses of Grafton, Wilcannia, Sale, Port Augusta,
·stchurch, and the Vicariates Apostolic of Kimberley and Queens-
·he latter with jurisdiction over all the aborigines of the colony)
·tablished, and Adelaide, Brisbane, and Wellington became arch-

RELIGION.

THE progress of all matters relating
since the early years of Australasian
and remarkable. For the first fifteen yea
colony of New South Wales, only a singl
by Government or possessed either minist
lished Church of England. In those day
ecclesiastically within the diocese of the
formed an Archdeaconry, this continue
of Australia was constituted, and the Rev
(formerly Archdeacon), was consecrated
bishopric of New Zealand was establi
mania. Considerable changes took pl
Melbourne, Adelaide (including Sou
tralia), and Newcastle (including the
New South Wales, and the whole of
the Bishop of Australia was styled
of Australia and Tasmania. In 18
out of that of Adelaide, and in 185
of Newcastle; in 1863 the bishop
Sydney, in 1867 the bishopric
out of part of the diocese of New
from Sydney; in 1875 Victoria
Melbourne and Ballarat, in 1878
was established, with Townsville
diocese of Riverina was form
Bathurst and Goulburn, and
Brisbane and Northern Queen
of Rockhampton. While the
united under a provincial con
Metropolitan, no such union e
decision of the Lambeth C
Archbishop to Colonial Metro
whose Bishop thereby became

Each colony preserves i
Archbishop of Sydney is no
of Australia and Tasmania
in the various colonies m
strengthened by the adopti
synod of representatives
every five years to discuss

in each of the seven
and a Congregational
ne first meeting of this
1892. It is intended to
the capital cities of the

s from a much later period,
urches being as follows -
1840; and Melbourne, 1841.
1852, in Brisbane in 1855,
In 1898 there were 215 Baptist
of which were in Victoria and

urches with but a small number
y be said to be the youngest of the
commenced operations in South
ear 1880, and in 1882 officers were
a, New South Wales, and Tasmania,
in those colonies. New Zealand
in 1886, and Western Australia in
Army are in Melbourne, and its head
ssioner. He is directly responsible to
officers commanding in each of the
k of colonel or brigadier. Each colony
are placed in the charge of superior
districts is subdivided into local corps
ded by secretaries, etc These subaltern
officers commanding their division, and
brigadier in charge of the Army of the whole

e all religions are equal in Australasia, and
tions has now been abolished in all the colonies
stralia, in 1851, was the first colony to withdraw
n in force only three years; and Queensland, in
ssembling of the first Parliament, abolished the
the mother colony, and limited future payments
ally in receipt of State aid. New South Wales
in 1862, and the expenditure on this account,
was over £32,000, had fallen in 1898–9 to £5,152.
of the group, with the exception of Western
tly abolished State aid, Victoria being the last of
denominational grants, namely, in 1875. In Western
em lasted until 1895, when it was abolished from that
n of the annual grants, two sums of £17,715 each
d amongst the religious bodies affected, namely, the
man Catholics, Wesleyans, and Presbyterians, on the
895, and 1st July, 1896.

The only denominations which ever received State aid were Church of England, Roman Catholics, Presbyterians, and Wesle[illegible] other denominations to which it was tendered refusing to acce[illegible] The greater portion of the inhabitants belonged to these four [illegible] and the enormous increase of population during the last [illegible] years has not in any considerable degree altered this condit[illegible] though in some colonies different bodies of Christians [illegible] a larger proportion of the people than in others. Th[illegible] New South Wales, Queensland, and Victoria the proportion of R[illegible] [illegible] has been, and still is, larger than in the other colonies, wh[illegible] New Zealand [illegible] Presbyterians bear a greater prop[illegible] [illegible] New Zealand than in any other colony, [illegible] are more numerous in South Australia [illegible] of the Church of England predom[illegible] [illegible] while Congregationalists and Ba[illegible] [illegible] in the southern colonies.

[illegible] shows the proportions held by the prin[illegible] [illegible] population of each colony at the enumera[illegible] [illegible] and 1891 —

	Year	Church of England	Roman Catholics	Presbyterians	Wesleyan and other Methodists	Congregationalists	Baptists
		Pcent	Pcent	Pcent	Pcent	Pcent	Pcent
[illegible]	New South Wales	45·5	29·3	9·7	7·9	1·8	0·8
	[illegible]	34·4	23·3	15·5	12·3	2·5	2·2
	Queensland	36·5	26·5	12·8	6·0	2·2	2·4
	South Australia	27·1	15·2	6·4	18·9	3·5	5·0
	Western Australia	59·0	28·7	2·1	5·6	3·6	0·2
	Tasmania	53·5	22·3	9·1	7·2	4·0	0·9
	New Zealand	41·8	13·9	24·8	8·6	1·5	1·9
	Australasia	39·1	23·1	13·6	10·5	2·4	2·0
1881	New South Wales	45·6	27·6	9·6	8·6	1·9	1·0
	Victoria	34·7	23·6	15·4	12·6	2·3	2·4
	Queensland	34·6	25·5	10·6	6·7	2·2	2·6
	South Australia	27·1	15·2	6·4	18·9	3·5	5·0
	Western Australia	54·7	28·3	3·4	7·0	4·3	.
	Tasmania	51·7	19·9	7·9	9·5	3·5	1·6
	New Zealand	41·5	14·1	23·1	9·4	1·4	2·3
	Australasia	39·1	22·2	13·4	10·9	2·2	2·2
1891	New South Wales	44·8	25·5	9·7	9·8	2·1	1·2
	Victoria	35·2	21·8	14·7	13·0	1·9	2·5
	Queensland	36·2	23·6	11·6	7·8	2·2	2·6
	South Australia	27·9	14·7	5·7	19·0	3·7	5·5
	Western Australia	49·7	25·3	4·0	9·2	3·2	0·6
	Tasmania	49·0	17·6	6·6	11·7	3·1	2·2
	New Zealand	40·0	13·9	22·6	9·9	1·1	2·4
	Australasia	39·1	21·1	13·0	11·4	2·1	2·3

...at while there were fluc-
...trength of the principal
...owed but little alteration
The Church of England at
...ulation, while the Roman
...n 1871 to 22·2 per cent. in
...n 1891. The Presbyterian
...n 1871 to 13·4 per cent. in
... Methodist bodies, which have
...5 per cent. in 1871 to 10·9 per
... Congregationalists and Baptists
...numerations, but the former show
...nty years, while the latter show a
...n headed "All others" also shows an
...) per cent. during the period This
...denominations, of which none are at
...n Queensland and South Australia;
...hardly be classed as a religion; and
...tious scruples, took advantage of the
...which the filling in of the column "Religious
...onal.

...E. Denominations in 1899.

...rs of adherents of the various denominations in
...stralian Commonwealth at the end of 1899 were

	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	West'n Australia.	Tasmania.	Australian Commonwealth.
...	663,710	413,000	173,660	105,280	78,670	88,420	1,462,740
...	325,600	253,620	103,540	53,750	41,050	29,170	811,730
...	131,500	107,530	57,860	20,390	7,700	10,390	325,490
...ther Methodists	146,520	154,730	41,490	70,430	17,370	24,430	454,870
...	29,850	19,780	10,610	13,720	5,130	5,290	84,380
...	10,240	20,250	12,540	21,130	1,200	4,740	80,140
...	9,800	12,800	27,500	25,050	1,870	910	78,030
...ans)	16,280	16,200	6,750	5,500	2,560	2,730	50,170
...	8,140	5,820	960	1,110	[illegible]	550	17,430
...ers	13,560	5,820	21,230	4,060	7,700	1,820	54,210
...	55,620	83,760	21,230	49,300	7,580	13,850	231,200
...Total	1,750,650	1,163,400	482,400	370,700	171,030	182,300	3,726,480

while the numbers in New Zealand and in the whole
as shown below :—

Denomination.	New Zealand.
Church of England..	295,040
Roman Catholic	105,150
Presbyterian	167,940
Wesleyan and other Methodists.	77,920
Congregational	7,560
Baptist	18,910
Lutheran	9,080
Salvation Army	15,130
Hebrew	2,270
Mahometans, etc.	5,300
Others	52,200
Total	756,500

DEFENCE.

HE colonists of Australasia have always manifested an objection to the maintenance of a standing army, and shown a disposition to mainly upon the patriotism and valour of the citizens for their own nce; but each colony possesses a more or less complete system of forti-ions, armed with expensive ordnance which requires a more regular constant attendance than could well be bestowed by those who ote only a portion of their time to military affairs; hence it has found advisable to institute in each colony small permanent itary forces, consisting for the most part of artillery and submarine ers, whose chief duty it is to man the fortifications and keep the uable armaments therein in a state of efficiency, so as to be ready for emergency. At the same time, it is expected that they will prove nucleus for an effective defence force if ever hostilities should ortunately occur. When Federation is established, it is provided the naval and military defences of the colonies shall as soon as le be tranferred to one central authority under the Commonwealth, it is hoped that the forces will then be placed on a stronger and e efficient footing.

The greater portion of the Australian forces, consists of volunteers ded under a system of partial payment, which affords a defence force bout the disadvantages and expense of a standing army. The men ive payment according to the number of parades and night drills they nd, as compensation for wages lost while absent from their employ-t for the purpose of receiving military instruction. The remunerations es in the different colonies, the New South Wales scale being 8s. for whole-day parade, 4s. for a half-day parade, and 2s for a night drill. re has been a marked tendency in most of the provinces to ourage the services of those who are purely volunteers, as the system found to work unsatisfactorily, especially in the country districts. New Zealand alone is the volunteer system the mainstay of defence. he following table shows the strength of the military forces main-ed by each colony as at 30th June, 1900. The total number of of military ages (from 20 to 40 years) in Australasia is estimated

to be upwards of 800,000, and compared with th
the colonies appear extremely small.

State.	Paid.	Partially Paid.
New South Wales..	123	5,104
Victoria	387	3,560
Queensland	284	2,945
South Australia	34	1,320
Western Australia	42	1,801
Tasmania	21	225
Commonwealth	891	14,955
New Zealand	288	.....
Australasia	1,179	14,955

In addition to the above there are in New
Queensland, and South Australia civilian r
membership of over 18,000 men, who have bee
reserve force. These men are all trained to
have a slight knowledge of drill, and would b
to complete the establishment of the reg
provisions of the Defence Acts in Queenslan
police receive a certain amount of militar
emergency may be called upon to perform m

The relative strength of the various a
States may be summarised as follows:—

Staff, and all arms not enumerated	.....
Artillery	.....
Engineers	.....
Cavalry	.....
Mounted Rifles	.....
Infantry	.....

making a total strength, as shown above.

In addition to the military forces en
the exception of Tasmania and Weste
of Naval Volunteer Artillery, or par
character, capable of being employed ei
or on board the local war vessels. T
of the colonies is as follows:—

New South Wales	.....
Victoria	.....
Queensland	.....
South Australia	.....
Commonwealth	.....
New Zealand	.....
Australasia	.....

For many years the question has
forces in the colonies for the I

...vered to grant
... of the
...rience
... Six
...vy are
...14½ not
...less than
...nts. The
...board the

...nies for the
... an auxiliary
...0 per annum,
...nterest charge
...per annum, the
...s of population,
...llows :—

	£
...	37,973
...	32,749
	13,585
	10,439
...	4,816
... ...	5,134
... ...	21,304
... ...	£126,000

...o torpedo gunboats of the
...sses of the British Navy.
...tously kept in commission,
...Australasian ports, ready for
... require their use. At the
...re the Katoomba, Mildura,
...lu being used as guard ship,
...rs, and is then or at the end of
...bled two years' notice has been
...t the agreement shall remain in
... shall consider the question of
... have been built by the British
...Governments have no voice whatever
... nor any control over their move-
...e agreement the vessels will remain
...ernment. The strength of the British
...re the agreement was entered into is
... presence of the Australasian vessels.
... the Admiral on the Australian Station,
...ydney, where a residence is provided for

Naval Defence.

[illegible] Australian Naval Station have been de[illegible] by the parallel of 10° S. lat. to [illegible] N. lat., and along that parallel to [illegible] N. lat., and along that parallel to [illegible] the Equator, and east to 149° 30' W. [illegible] the Antarctic Circle; and includi[illegible] situated within the limits specified [illegible] Australasian coast is entrusted to the Briti[illegible] and the Australasian Auxiliary Sq[illegible] of the fleet, ranks as a first-clas[illegible] repairing yards and store-houses have be[illegible] of the ships of war. The vessels [illegible] below. The Penguin and Dart are [illegible]

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Length	Beam	Armament. Guns.	Speed.	[illegible]
			ft. in.	ft. in.	ft. in.		knots	ton
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	8 One 9·2-in. B.L., 12·6-in. B.L.Q.F., 12·6-Pr., 5 3-Pr., 7 Nordenfeldt	16·75	1,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	0 Six 6-in. 5-ton B.L.V.C.P., 8 3-Pr., 2 Nordenfeldt	16·5	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	0 Six 6-in. 5-ton B.L.V.C.P., 8 3-Pr., 2 Nordenfeldt	16·5	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	0 Two 6-in. 4-ton B.L.R., 11·7-in. 38-cwt. B.L.R., 4 M., 1 L.	13·1	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	0 Six 4-in. 26-cwt. B.L., 2 3-Pr., 2 Nordenfeldt	12·0	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	0 Six 4-in. 26-cwt. B.L.R., 2 Q.F. Hotchkiss, 2 M.	13·0	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	0 Six 4-in. Q.F., 4 3-Pr. Q.F. Hotchkiss, 2 0·45-in. Maxim	13·25	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	0 Two 64-pr. M., 1 L., 2 M.	10·0	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	2 2 L., 2 M. ...	8·5	[illegible]

[illegible] M., [illegible] L., Light guns under 15 cwt., B.L.R., Broc[illegible] [illegible] V.C.P., Vavasseur Centre Pivot.

The Royal Arthur has no armour, but carries a protective [illegible] in thickness from 1 to 5 inches. Her 6-inch gu[illegible] in casemates of steel 6 inches thick.

opportunity offers, the Admiral of the Fleet is empowered to grant
missions, for periods not exceeding six months, to officers of the
l forces of the colonies, in order that they may gain some experience
e conditions under which modern naval warfare is practised. Six
ships and three engineer studentships in the Imperial Navy are
annually to Australian boys, who must not be less than 14½ nor
than 15½ years of age to qualify for the former, and not less than
r more than 17 years of age for the latter appointments. The
s undergo a course of instruction for two years on board the
nia training-ship before they receive a commission.

undertaking has been entered into by all the colonies for the
nt of a *pro rata* subsidy towards the maintenance of an auxiliary
The total subvention to be paid amounts to £126,000 per annum,
up of £91,000 for maintenance, and £35,000 as interest charge
e cost of construction, at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, the
bution of each colony being determined on the basis of population.
istribution of the subsidy in 1899-1900, was as follows —

	£
New South Wales	37,973
Victoria	32,749
Queensland	13,585
South Australia	10,439
Western Australia	4,816
Tasmania	5,134
New Zealand	21,304
Australasia	£126,000

e fleet consists of five fast cruisers and two torpedo gunboats of the
er (improved type) and Rattlesnake classes of the British Navy.
e cruisers and one gunboat are continuously kept in commission,
he remainder are held in reserve in Australasian ports, ready for
ission whenever circumstances may require their use. At the
nt time the vessels in reserve are the Katoomba, Mildura,
anga, and Karrakatta, the Katoomba being used as guard ship.
greement is for a period of ten years, and is then or at the end of
bsequent year terminable, provided two years' notice has been
It has lately been decided that the agreement shall remain in
until the Federal Government shall consider the question of
alian Defence. The vessels have been built by the British
rnment, and the Australasian Governments have no voice whatever
e management of the vessels, nor any control over their move-
On the termination of the agreement the vessels will remain
roperty of the Imperial Government. The strength of the British
in Australian waters before the agreement was entered into is
ained independently of the presence of the Australasian vessels.
quadron is commanded by the Admiral on the Australian Station,
e head-quarters are in Sydney, where a residence is provided for

him by the colony of New South Wales. The squadron, which arrive in Port Jackson on the 5th September, 1891, consists of the followin vessels :—

Name	Displacement.	Indicated horse power	Draught of water extreme.	Length.	Beam.	Armament. Guns.	Torpedo tubes	Speed.	Coal endura Coal that can be carried in bunkers	Coal endura Distance that can be steamed at speed
	tons.		ft. in	ft. in	ft. in.			knots.	tons.	knot
Katoomba ...	2,575	7,500	17 6	265 0	41 0	Eight 4·7 Q F guns, eight 3 pr Q F guns, one 7 pr M L R gun (boat and field), four 4 45 in. 5 barrel Nordenfeldt.	4	16 5	300	6,000
Ringarooma	2,577	7,500	17 6	265 0	41 0		4	16 5	300	6,000
Mildura	2,575	7,500	16 6	265 0	41 0		4	16 5	300	6,000
Wallaroo	2,575	7,500	17 3	265 0	41 0		4	16 5	300	6,000
Tauranga	2,575	7,500	17 6	265 0	41 0		4	16 5	300	6,000
Boomerang	735	3,500	10 8	230 0	27 0	Two 4·7 in Q F guns, four 3-pr Q F. guns	3	*18 75	160	2,500
Karrakatta	735	3,500	10 9	230 0	27 0		3	*18 75	160	2,500

* This speed can be increased until, under favourable conditions, for a short period, a maximum of 21 knots can be obtained. Q F -Quick firing guns. M L R. Muzzle loading rifled guns.

The Boomerang and Karrakatta are classed as torpedo gun boats all the other vessels are third-class screw cruisers. The hull of each vesse is of steel. The deck armour over machinery space is 2 in. and 1-in. and the conning towers are protected by 3-inch armour, except in the case of the torpedo gun-boats, the towers of which have 1-in. armour. Each of the cruisers carries four, and each of the torpedo gun-boats three torpedo tubes. In the event of any of the squadron being lost the vessel is to be replaced by the British Government.

The only war vessels which the colony of New South Wales possesses are two small torpedo boats, the Acheron and the Avernus, which are manned by the Naval Artillery Volunteers.

Victoria has the following vessels available for harbour defence :—

Name.	Class.	Displacement.	Armament.
		tons.	
Cerberus	Armoured turret ship (twin screw).	3,480	Four 10-in 18 ton M L R., two 14 pdr Q F , six 6-pdr Q F , four 1 in. Nordenfeldts, 4 barrels.
Countess of Hopetoun	First-class steel torpedo boat	120	Three 14 in Mark IX R G F torpedoes and two 2 barrel Nordenfeldt 1 in M guns.
Childers	do do	93	Two 14 in. Fiume torpedoes, and two 1 pdr Hotchkiss Q F guns
Nepean	Second-class steel torpedo boat.	12	Two 14 in Mark IV Fiume torpedoes.
Lonedale	do do	12	do do do
Gordon	Wooden torpedo boat	12	Two 14 in. Mark IV Fiume torpedoes three 2 barrel 1 in Nordenfeldt guns.
Commissioner	Wooden steam launch	40	Spar torpedoes, and dropping gear for two 14 in. R L. torpedoes.
Customs No. 1	do do	30	do do do

In addition to the vessels mentioned, Victoria formerly had in commission two steel gunboats, the Victoria and the Albert, the wooden frigate Nelson, and the armed steamer Gannet. In consequence of the promulgation of an opinion by the Colonial Defence Committee that where there are complete fixed defences floating defences do not add to the strength of a place, but in most cases even tend to weaken it, by interfering with and limiting the arcs of fire of the battery guns, it was decided to dispose of the vessels named, and to give up the use of the Melbourne Harbour Trust's hopper barges, the Batman and the Fawkner. In 1896 the Government of Western Australia purchased the gunboat Victoria, with the intention of employing it in surveying service; and the frigate Nelson was sold in 1898 to be broken up.

Queensland has two gunboats, one of which, the Paluma, was formerly employed on survey service on the coast of Queensland at the joint expense of the Queensland and British authorities. Afterwards, the Paluma was lent to the Imperial Government; and, since handed back to Queensland in April, 1895, has been placed in reserve. The other gunboat, the Gayundah, was paid off and placed in reserve on the 30th September, 1892, and recommissioned on the 1st December, 1898. Particulars of the vessels available for the defence of Queensland ports are given below:

Name.	Class.	Displacement.	Armament.
[illegible]	Steel gunboat (twin screw)	Tons. 360	One 8-in. B.L., one 6-in. B.L. Armstrong, two 4-pdr. 12½ cwt. Nordenfeldts, two 1-in. four-barrelled Nordenfeldts, one 0·45-in. five-barrelled Nordenfeldt.
[illegible]	do	360	One 6-in. B.L., two 5-in. B.L., two 1½-in. Q.F. Nordenfeldts, one 1-in. four-barrelled Nordenfeldt, one 0·45-in. five-barrelled Nordenfeldt.
[illegible]	Tender (twin screw)	290	One 64-pounder, M.L.R.
[illegible]	do	450	One gun.
[illegible]	Steam pinnace		Three machine guns.
[illegible]	Second-class steel torpedo boat.		One machine gun.

South Australia maintains one twin-screw steel cruiser, the Protector, of 920 tons, and an auxiliary gun vessel. The armament of the Protector consists of one 8-in. 12-ton B.L., five 6-in. 4-ton B.L., four 3-pdr. Q.F., and five improved Gatling machine guns; while the auxiliary gun vessel carries two 6-in. 5-ton B.L. guns. Tasmania owns one White-head torpedo boat. Western Australia has the steel gunboat Victoria, purchased from the Victorian Government, and the Meda, a schooner of 150 tons, which are employed on survey service at the joint expense of the Imperial and Colonial Governments. New Zealand possesses six Thornycroft torpedo boats and four steam launches fitted for torpedo work.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] sums in work[illegible] [illegible] extensive forti[illegible] [illegible] The total expenditure f[illegible] [illegible] during 1898-9 wa[illegible]

[illegible]	[illegible]	Per head.
	[illegible]	s. d.
[illegible]	[illegible]	3 7
[illegible]	[illegible]	3 3
[illegible]	[illegible]	4 0
[illegible]	[illegible]	1 9
[illegible]	[illegible]	2 0
[illegible]	[illegible]	1 3
[illegible]	[illegible]	3 3
[illegible]	[illegible]	3 1
[illegible]	[illegible]	3 2

[illegible] Western Australia, a cer[illegible] [illegible] for purposes of defe[illegible]

[illegible]

The total loan expenditure by each colony for defence purposes to the end of the financial year 1898-9 was as follows: -

State	Amount.	Per head
	£	s. d.
New South Wales	*1,328,106	19 9
Victoria	133,126	2 4
Queensland	242,566	10 2
South Australia	242,810	13 2
Tasmania	122,027	13 7
Commonwealth	2,068,635	11 2
New Zealand	979,633	26 1
Australasia	£3,048,268	13 8

* Inclusive of £312,481 for naval station, Port Jackson.

This does not represent the whole cost of the fortifications, as large sums have from time to time been expended from the general revenues of the colonies in the construction of works of defence; the amount of such payments, however, it is now impossible to determine.

In 1890 a military commission was appointed by the Imperial and the different Australian Governments to take evidence and report on the question of fortifying King George's Sound, Hobart, Thursday Island, and Port Darwin, at the joint expense of the colonies. The commission visited the points mentioned during 1891, and as a result of the evidence taken fortifications have been erected at King George's Sound and Thursday Island, and it is probable that similar works will be begun at Hobart and Port Darwin in the near future. On 11th March 1892, the four colonies New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and South Australia entered into a contract with Western Australia, to contribute to the cost of the defence of Albany. The agreement provides that one fourth of the total expense shall be defrayed by Western Australia, and three fourths by the other colonies, the proportion to be paid by each to be calculated on the basis of its population. Western Australia provides the garrison and has general superintendence. A similar agreement was made on the 1st January, 1893, between the same five colonies for the defence of Thursday Island. In this instance each colony contributes towards the total expense of maintaining the garrison in proportion to its population.

SHIPPING.

THE earliest date for which there is reliable information in re to the shipping of Australasia is the year 1822. Since that [illegible] expansion of the trade of these colonies has been marvellous. [illegible] population has increased at a high rate, yet the growt [illegible] has been even more rapid. In the table given below [illegible] the number and tonnage of vessels may be traced. [illegible] that the figures include the intercolonial tr [illegible] therefore, of little value in a comparison between the ship [illegible] Australasia and that of other countries, as the vessels pl [illegible] the various colonies represent merely coasting trade v [illegible] is considered as a whole. This distinction is kept in [illegible] throughout this chapter, as well as in the succeeding one dealing [illegible]

Year.	Entered and Cleared.		Year.	Entered and Cleared.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.		Vessels.	Tonnage.

n the following table for the four census years commencing with as well as for the year 1899:

State.	Total Tonnage Entered and Cleared.				
	1861	1871.	1881.	1891.	1899.
th Wales	745,696	1,500,479	2,786,500	5,694,236	6,995,551
	1,090,002	1,355,025	2,412,534	4,715,109	5,341,455
nd	44,645	93,236	882,491	997,115	1,404,[illegible]
stralia	190,331	387,026	1,359,[illegible]	2,738,589	3,619,[illegible]
Australia ..	115,256	137,717	285,046	1,045,555	2,638,648
	230,218	216,160	383,762	1,044,606	1,318,117
onwealth	2,425,148	3,689,643	8,100,924	16,235,213	21,377,085
and	403,336	540,261	833,621	1,244,322	1,6[illegible]
ustralasia .	2,828,484	4,229,904	8,943,545	17,479,535	22,996,134

tonnage of 1891 exceeded that of any preceding year. This was not altogether due to the actual requirements of the trade of ar, as, in consequence of the maritime strike, a large quantity of remained unshipped at the close of 1890, and helped to swell the for the succeeding twelve months. It was not until 1895 that nage of 1891 was again reached; but since 1895 there has been expansion of shipping, and 1899 showed not only the largest nnage recorded but the greatest for each individual state

will be found the proportion of the tonnage of each state and Zealand to the total shipping of Australasia in the five years above:—

State.	Percentage of Total of Australasia				
	1861	1871.	1881.	1891.	1899
uth Wales . .	26·4	35·5	31·1	32·6	30·4
	38·5	32·0	27·0	27·0	23·2
nd	1·8	2·2	9·9	5·7	6·4
ustralia . .	7·0	9·1	15·2	15·6	15·7
Australia . .	4·0	3·3	3·2	6·0	11·5
	8·1	5·1	4·3	6·0	5·8
aland	14·2	12·8	9·3	7·1	7·0
ustralasia	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0

ll be seen that in 1861 the shipping of New South Wales was exceeded by that of Victoria, but that by 1871 the mother had assumed the leading position. It cannot be claimed that gures have much meaning, and they would not have been repeated

[illegible] ing how easy it is [illegible] data Queensland [illegible] tonnage, yet, unques[illegible] importance of its trad[illegible] the real and apparent t[illegible] [illegible]ted to, that the same [illegible] tonnage in the return[illegible] [illegible] at Albany, in Weste[illegible] [illegible] way of Adelaide and Mel[illegible] [illegible] figures as a separate vessel [illegible] at extent in regard to Que[illegible] [illegible] value as indicating the c[illegible] [illegible] separate state, and not the pr[illegible] [illegible].

[illegible] SHIPPING.

[illegible] Australasia, which has been dealt [illegible] nearly 62 per cent. is rep[illegible] [illegible] In the following table [illegible] [illegible] entered at the ports [illegible] As a rule the expansion of t[illegible] [illegible] kept pace with the growth [illegible] To this general statement [illegible] [illegible] of the development [illegible] has been enabled to enter int[illegible] [illegible] Kingdom, instead of tra[illegible] [illegible] New South Wales or Victoria:

			Entered from other Colonies			
			1891			18[illegible]
	[illegible]	[illegible]	Vessels	Tonnage	Vessels	T[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1,847,435	2,471	2,0[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1,614	1,7[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	440	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	690,488	7[illegible]2	1,0[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	242,004	365	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	747	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	351,227	382	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	5,359,725	6,781	7,0[illegible]

[illegible] nearly one-third of the total to[illegible] [illegible] to New South Wales, but th[illegible]

easure due to the fact that many vessels discharging in other proceed to Newcastle, in New South Wales, to load coal for ports.

State.	Cleared for other Colonies.					
	1881.		1891.		1899.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
th Wales	1,507	766,896	2,146	1,574,841	2,327	2,003,963
	1,889	894,629	2,265	1,342,183	1,678	1,847,130
nd	679	331,459	423	326,808	406	439,166
stralia	871	467,867	891	872,654	833	1,206,032
Australia	102	71,826	159	269,592	326	658,482
	661	180,644	768	489,350	731	606,954
land	422	199,517	447	287,332	359	382,700
stralasia	6,131	2,912,838	7,099	5,862,760	6,660	7,144,427

mparison of the figures given above with those in the preceding ows that in the case of Victoria and South Australia the cleared is largely in excess of that entered. This partly arises e necessity of many vessels clearing at the southern ports in and proceeding for outward cargo to New South Wales ports, lly Newcastle, where on their outward voyage such vessels are, e. reckoned amongst the external shipping.

ombined tonnage entered and cleared during 1881, 1891, and ith the percentage for each state and New Zealand to the total l shipping of Australasia, will be found below.

State.	Entered from and Cleared for other Colonies.					
	Total Tonnage.			Percentage of Total.		
	1881.	1891.	1899.	1881.	1891.	1899.
h Wales	1,706,054	3,422,276	4,078,913	29·5	31·0	28·6
	1,675,262	3,384,552	3,586,745	28·9	30·7	25·2
d	600,052	603,863	910,063	10·4	5·5	6·4
tralia	880,360	1,563,142	2,292,698	15·2	14·2	16·1
Australia	145,846	511,596	1,429,427	2·5	4·6	10·0
	356,083	898,497	1,139,870	6·2	8·2	8·0
land	426,891	638,559	806,316	7·3	5·8	5·7
alasia	5,790,458	11,022,485	14,244,032	100·0	100·0	100·0

External Shipping.

[illegible] explained that in any comparison between the shi[illegible] [illegible] that of other countries the intercolonial trade [illegible] excluded, but even then the tonnage would be too [illegible] inclusion of mail steamers and other vessels on the [illegible] in the returns of several of the colonies. However, [illegible] possible to amend the returns so as to secure the reject[illegible] [illegible] which is reckoned twice over [illegible] considering [illegible] statement, showing the shipping [illegible] these colonies [illegible] beyond Australasia, this point [illegible] in mind:

Division	1871		[illegible]		[illegible]		18[illegible]	
	Vessels	Tonnage	Vessels	Tonnage	Vessels	Tonnage	Vessels	[illegible]
[illegible]								
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1,720	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]								
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	511	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	374,753	463	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	767,087	974	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]								
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	519	302,607	754	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	638	431,265	942	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1,157	733,872	1,606	2,102,[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]								
[illegible]	[illegible]	613,[illegible]25	1,910	1,007,244	2,232	3,339,[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	659,[illegible]91	1,725	1,457,843	2,158	3,117,[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	2,344	1,279,416	3,635	3,153,087	4,390	6,457,050	[illegible]	[illegible]

[illegible] shipping of Australasia during 1899 was the [illegible] [illegible] of the country, being fully 35 per cent. more [illegible] [illegible] entered and cleared in 1891, when trade was inflat[illegible] [illegible] of goods left over from the previous year on [illegible] maritime strike. A distribution of the traffic am[illegible] [illegible] divisions of the British Empire and the principal for[illegible]

countries with which the colonies have commercial relations will be found below :—

Country	Entered from and cleared for Countries beyond Australasia.					
	1891.		1891.		1899	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels	Tonnage
British Empire—						
United Kingdom	1,259	1,651,228	1,720	3,348,409	1,608	3,977,228
India and Ceylon...	167	272,199	142	286,319	120	258,177
Hong Kong . .	244	257,011	227	324,820	230	351,214
Cape Colony	133	54,949	72	66,211	277	402,746
Fiji ...	153	43,255	153	127,189	116	106,068
Other British Possessions	522	140,573	380	201,793	625	527,568
Total, British	2,478	2,419,215	2,094	4,354,741	2,976	5,623,001
Foreign Countries—						
France and New Caledonia .	224	113,215	275	417,064	261	539,075
Germany	27	15,786	208	393,001	259	824,286
Netherlands and Java	67	35,719	51	74,843	39	70,304
Belgium	2	1,552	27	41,907	42	85,802
United States	294	301,246	484	597,210	352	661,459
China . ..	81	53,996	34	33,135	15	22,754
Other Foreign Countries	462	212,358	617	545,149	688	925,421
Total, Foreign	1,157	733,872	1,696	2,102,309	1,656	3,129,101
All External Tonnage	3,635	3,153,087	4,390	6,457,050	4 632	8,752,102

As the following table shows, the largest share of the external tonnage of Australasia falls to New South Wales, which takes one-third of the total. Victoria comes next with one-fifth, followed by South Australia with about one-seventh. The figures in the chapter on commerce, however, give a better idea of the relative importance of the provinces in

external trade, as the tonnage of the mail-steamers entered and cleare at Albany and Port Adelaide is out of all proportion to the goods lande and shipped there:

State.	Entered and Cleared.						Percentage of each State to Total.		
	1881.		1891.		1899.				
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	1881.	1891.	1899.
New South Wales	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1,[illegible]	2,916,638	34·3	35·2	[illegible]
Victoria	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1,754,710	23·4	20·6	[illegible]
Queensland	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	446	554,000	8·9	6·1	[illegible]
South Australia	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1,326,553	15·2	18·2	15·2
Western Australia	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1,[illegible]	4·4	8·2	[illegible]
Tasmania	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	173,247	0·9	2·3	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	..	..	..
New Zealand	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	12·9	9·4	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	100·0	100·0	100·0

[illegible] the shipping of the principal countries of the [illegible] tonnage of Australasia is appended :—

[illegible]	Tonnage Entered and Cleared.		Country	Tonnage Entered and Cleared.	
	Total.	Average per [illegible]		Total.	Average per [illegible]

Tonnage in Ballast.

A peculiar feature of the shipping trade of these colonies is the small though varying proportion of tonnage in ballast arriving from and departing for places beyond Australasia. Thus in the year 1881 this description of tonnage amounted to 4·3 per cent., and in 1891 to 3·5 per cent., of the total external shipping of the colonies; while in 1899, at 6·6 per cent., the proportion was comparatively high. The small increase during recent years is chiefly due to the larger number of vessels which come to New South Wales in quest of freights, the proportion of shipping in ballast for that colony being about 8 per cent. less than that for the United Kingdom. The total external tonnage entered and cleared in ballast during the years 1881, 1891, and 1899 was as follows:—

State.	Tonnage Entered and Cleared in Ballast.			Percentage of Tonnage in Ballast to Total External Tonnage.		
	1881	1891	1899	1881.	1891.	1899.
New South Wales	22,376	74,976	313,239	2·1	3·3	10·7
Victoria	12,841	27,417	34,944	1·7	2·1	2·0
Queensland	25,378	25,868	12,507	9·0	6·6	2·2
South Australia	28,590	40,907	59,977	6·0	3·5	4·5
Western Australia	10,399	14,030	101,805	7·5	2·6	8·4
Tasmania	4,553	11,816	6,477	16·4	8·1	3·6
Commonwealth	104,137	195,014	528,949	3·8	3·3	6·7
New Zealand	30,622	30,650	47,305	7·5	5·1	5·8
Australasia	134,759	225,664	576,254	4·3	3·5	6·6

The reason why so small a proportion of Australasian shipping clears in ballast is principally to be found in the great and varied resources of the country, for when the staple produce—wool—is not available, cargoes of wheat, coal, copper, live-stock, frozen meat, and other commodities may generally be obtained. Besides, owing to the great distance of the ports of these colonies from the commercial centres of the old world, vessels are not usually sent out without at least some prospect of securing a return cargo. As a rule, it does not pay to send vessels to Australasia seeking freights, as is commonly done with regard to European and American ports. It is strong testimony, therefore, of the value of the trade of New South Wales to shipowners to find entered at the ports of that colony direct from outside countries the comparatively large quantity of 301,495 tons of shipping in ballast, 18,240 of which came from Japan, 19,791 from Natal, 21,462 from Mauritius, 47,257 from South American ports, and 123,609 from Cape Colony.

The proportion of tonnage in ballast to the total shipping of some the principal countries of the world is subjoined.—

Country	Percentage of Shipping in Ballast	Country	Percentage of Shipping in Ballast
United Kingdom	18·7	Belgium	27·0
Russia in Europe .	35·0	France	19·7
Norway ...	26·7	Spain	26·9
Sweden . ..	43·7	Italy	20·3
Germany	21·2	United States	18·5
Netherlands	26·2	Australasia	6·6

Nationality of Vessels.

The shipping trade of Australasia is almost entirely in British ha as will be seen from the subjoined table, which deals with the t tonnage of the colonies, both intercolonial and external. Altho direct communication with continental Europe has been establi within recent years, and several lines of magnificent steamers h entered into the trade between Australia and foreign ports, yet the portion of shipping belonging to Great Britain and her dependen has only fallen from 92·9 to 84·8 per cent. during the period exten from 1881 to 1899.—

Nationality.	Total Shipping Entered and Cleared						Percentage each Nation	
	1881		1891		1899.			
	Vessels	Tonnage	Vessels.	Tonnage	Vessels.	Tonnage.	1881	1891
British .	15,127	8,313,536	16,834	15,208,61[illegible]	16,085	10,500,42[illegible]	92·9	87·[illegible]
[illegible] . .	[illegible]	47,713	251	50,[illegible]	322	70[illegible],416	0·[illegible]	3·4
German .	130	130,[illegible]	54[illegible]	[illegible]	531	1,48[illegible]	1·[illegible]	[illegible]
Scandinavian	133	66,560	336	3[illegible],077	444	3[illegible],58[illegible]	0·[illegible]	[illegible]
American	308	328,540	382	58[illegible]	399	520,[illegible]07	3·7	[illegible]
Other nationalities	77	[illegible],[illegible]	123	1[illegible],000	292	465,616	0·7	[illegible]
Total	15,935	8,043,545	18,468	17,47[illegible],535	18,073	22,996,134	100·0	100·[illegible]

The returns published by the various colonies are not in such a f as to admit of the separation of the purely local tonnage from the o shipping of the Empire, and vessels owned in Australasia are classe the above table as "British." The number and tonnage of the steam sailing vessels registered in each of the colonies are given on page Few of the large vessels employed in the intercolonial trade have b built in Australasia, and it is possible that the registrations do represent the whole of the tonnage engaged in local waters.

Steam and Sailing Vessels.

The tendency to substitute steamers for sailing vessels, which is general throughout the world, is very marked in the Australasian trade. Unfortunately the records of Queensland and of the Northern Territory do not admit of the separation of the two classes of vessels, and this was the case also with regard to the colonies of South Australia and New Zealand until late years. It is not possible, therefore, to show the increase of steam tonnage for the whole of Australasia, but appended will be found the figures for the various colonies so far as they can be given —

State.	Total Steam Tonnage entered and cleared.			Percentage of Steam to Total Tonnage.		
	1881	1891	1899	1881	1891	1899
New South Wales	1,758,304	4,299,701	5,757,341	63·1	75·5	82·3
Victoria	1,787,861	4,091,057	4,955,847	74·1	86·8	92·7
South Australia*	†	2,007,775	3,089,128	†...	73·3	90·1
Western Australia	210,664	978,568	2,335,132	73·9	93·6	88·5
Tasmania	265,833	960,224	1,264,401	69·3	91·9	95·9
New Zealand	†.....	822,086	1,343,118	†...	66·1	82·9

* Excluding Northern Territory. † Not obtainable.

The substitution of steam for sailing vessels in the shipping trade of some of the principal countries of the world may be gathered from the following table. The percentage for Australasia is calculated on the tonnage of the shipping of the colonies exclusive of that of Queensland and the Northern Territory of South Australia :—

Country	Percentage of Steam to Total Tonnage	
	1881	1898
United Kingdom	67·7	90·5
Russia in Europe	74·3	95·7
Norway	31·1	61·5
Sweden	46·8	80·2*
Denmark	61·9	85·5
Germany	70·8	90·5
Netherlands	74·4	95·7
Belgium	81·3	96·4
France	60·5	95·0
Italy	72·8	92·0
United States	55·5	81·1
Argentine Republic	70·4	91·1
Australasia	66·6	87·8

* Percentage for year 1896.

A comprehensive view of the changes which have taken place during the last thirty-eight years in the class of vessel engaged in the inter-

[illegible] shipping trade of Australasia is afforded [illegible]

[illegible]	[illegible]	Tonnage	Crews.	Average Tonnage per vessel.	Average Tonnage per [illegible]
		INTERCOLONIAL SHIPPING.			
[illegible]	[illegible]	1,751,628	122,280	210	14
[illegible]	[illegible]	2,950,488	169,020	270	17
[illegible]	[illegible]	5,790,458	324,951	471	18
[illegible]	[illegible]	11,022,485	443,424	783	25
[illegible]	13,441	14,244,032	444,894	1,060	32
		EXTERNAL SHIPPING.			
[illegible]	1,361	1,076,856	52,440	549	21
[illegible]	2,344	1,279,416	52,330	546	24
[illegible]	[illegible]	3,153,087	129,826	867	24
[illegible]	[illegible]	6,457,050	231,878	1,471	28
[illegible]	[illegible]	8,752,102	337,913	1,889	26
		ALL AUSTRALASIAN SHIPPING.			
[illegible]	[illegible]	2,828,484	174,720	274	16
[illegible]	[illegible]	4,229,904	221,350	319	19
[illegible]	[illegible]	8,943,545	454,777	561	20
[illegible]	[illegible]	17,479,535	675,302	946	26
[illegible]	[illegible]	22,996,134	782,807	1,272	29

As the table shows, the total number of vessels engaged in the [illegible] trade of Australasia during 1899 was 395 less than the figure [illegible], but the returns of tonnage show an increase of upwards [illegible] and a half millions. The average tonnage of shipping is 1,272 [illegible] compared with 946 in 1891, and 274 in 1861. The explanation of this increase of course lies in the fact that a superior type of vessel is now engaged in the shipping trade of these colonies, and the enterprise of the great European and American trading companies will doubtless have the effect of raising still higher the average for succeeding years. It is somewhat remarkable to find that the vessels engaged in the intercolonial trade have more than kept pace in increase of tonnage with those trading between these colonies and other countries. Of course, the increase in the average tonnage of intercolonial vessels is represented as greater than it actually has been, because the mail steamers on their way to Sydney are cleared at Albany, Adelaide and Melbourne for the colonies further east; but when allowance has been made on this score, the improvement in the class of vessel trading in local waters will be found most noteworthy. It is well known, however, that the steamers running on the Australian coast favourably compare with those engaged in the coasting trade of the United Kingdom.

Relative Importance of Ports.

The relative importance of the various ports of Australasia may be ascertained by an inspection of the table given hereunder. Melbourne takes the first place in the amount of tonnage; but the figures are inflated by the counting of the great ocean steamers as twice entering and twice clearing at Port Phillip. This remark applies equally to Port Adelaide and Albany. If allowance be made on this score, it will be found that Sydney has a larger quantity of shipping than any other Australasian port, and that it is followed by Melbourne, Newcastle, and Port Adelaide. In reference to the figures given for Queensland ports, it is necessary to point out that vessels are entered and cleared at all ports which they visit, and not at the first and last port of call only, and the quantity of tonnage shown is therefore in most cases greater than ought to be represented:—

Port.	Tonnage entered and cleared.		
	1881.	1891.	1890.
New South Wales—			
Sydney	1,610,692	3,291,186	4,566,524
Newcastle	1,127,238	1,844,842	1,994,777
Wollongong	14,642	101,888	225,919
Victoria—			
Melbourne	2,144,949	4,362,136	4,947,118
Geelong	93,347	190,932	275,221
Queensland—			
Brisbane	406,032	855,993	1,297,758
Townsville	205,886	544,470	852,148
Rockhampton	207,706	471,837	552,162
Cooktown	217,144	469,577	310,763
Cairns	56,447	326,898	438,180
Mackay	104,174	330,119	383,385
South Australia—			
Port Adelaide	1,078,920	1,990,938	2,917,630
Port Pirie	33,325	321,781	341,912
Port Darwin	90,100	170,642	189,885
Western Australia—			
Albany	219,902	931,502	1,792,809
Fremantle	42,818	63,068	711,605
Tasmania—			
Hobart	204,007	646,683	757,071
Launceston	138,657	293,537	174,280
Davenport	.....	8,121	204,377
New Zealand—			
Auckland	238,886	345,183	526,178
Wellington	119,243	293,451	470,683
Bluff Harbour	91,592	196,540	237,176
Lyttelton	167,151	161,387	173,641
Dunedin	114,637	97,409	84,608

[illegible] the relative importance of the principal ports of [illegible] from the trade figures, which are given below [illegible] :—

[illegible]	Total Trade	Average [illegible] of Shipping	Port.	Total Trade	[illegible]
[illegible]	£	£	Western Australia—	£	£
[illegible]	43,233,859	9·5	Fremantle	6,252,047	[illegible]
[illegible]	2,263,348	1·1	Albany	3,260,741	[illegible]
[illegible]			Tasmania—		
[illegible]	32,292,115	6·5	Hobart	1,528,840	[illegible]
[illegible]			Launceston	1,498,987	[illegible]
[illegible]	6,761,490	5·2	New Zealand—		
[illegible]			Wellington	3,963,402	[illegible]
[illegible]	9,072,781	3·1	Auckland	4,072,323	[illegible]

[illegible] comparative importance of the ports of Australasia may be [illegible] in connection with the shipping and trade of the [illegible] United Kingdom, the 1898 figures for which are appe[illegible] that in aggregate tonnage Melbourne is exceeded [illegible] Liverpool, Cardiff, and Newcastle. Hull comes next [illegible] a slight lead over Sydney, which in turn exceeds [illegible] other British ports. In value of trade Sydney is exceeded [illegible] Liverpool, and Hull. If Australasia be regarded as [illegible] however, the comparison is somewhat misleading, as the [illegible] trade is included in the returns :—

Port.	Total Shipping	Total Trade	Port.	Total Shipping	Total Trade
[illegible]	tons.	£	Scotland—	tons	£
[illegible]	19,596,202	237,198,097	Glasgow	3,684,443	26,[illegible]
[illegible]	12,168,802	198,897,093	Leith	1,977,117	16,[illegible]
[illegible]	8,788,105	8,136,497	Kirkcaldy	1,693,005	1,[illegible]
[illegible]	5,610,867	9,631,510	Grangemouth	1,482,279	4,[illegible]
[illegible]	4,627,480	52,424,207	Ireland—		
[illegible]	2,923,611	23,001,612	Belfast	608,631	5,[illegible]
[illegible]	1,961,740	1,533,589	Dublin	311,191	2,[illegible]
[illegible]	1,876,321	18,478,859	Australasia—		
[illegible]	1,804,984	12,521,887	Sydney	4,566,524	43,[illegible]
[illegible]	1,620,881	1,888,206	Melbourne	4,947,118	32,[illegible]
[illegible]	1,408,059	23,098,529	Brisbane	1,297,758	6,[illegible]
[illegible]	1,296,670	1,573,978	Adelaide	2,917,630	9,[illegible]
[illegible]	1,173,859	12,469,253	Fremantle	711,605	6,[illegible]
[illegible]	774,288	12,513,368	Hobart	757,071	1,[illegible]
			Wellington	470,683	3,[illegible]
			Auckland	526,178	4,[illegible]

[illegible] movement of tonnage at Melbourne and Sydney [illegible] of the ports of any other British possession, Hong Ko[illegible]

gapore excepted. Two other exceptions might be mentioned— ir and Malta, but as these are chiefly ports of call, and the trade limited compared with the tonnage, they can scarcely be placed ame category.

Registration of Vessels.

number and tonnage of steam and sailing vessels on the registers of the seven colonies at the end of 1899 are given below .—

State.	Steam.		Sailing		Total.	
	Vessels.	Net Tonnage.	Vessels.	Net Tonnage	Vessels	Net Tonnage.
th Wales	498	67,193	[illegible]	55,554	1,000	122,747
. . . . .	148	60 964	233	37,837	381	98,801
nd	90	12,867	144	9,928	234	22,795
stralia	108	28,445	227	22,421	335	50,866
Australia	30	5,442	135	6,653	165	12,095
.. ..	44	6,485	156	8,894	200	15,379
land	212	52,770	310	40,753	522	93,523
stralasia	1,130	234,166	1,707	182,040	2,837	416,206

COMMERCE.

IT is reasonable to expect that the trade of these colonies would i as quickly as the population; but as a matter of fact its gro many years was much more rapid, and at the present time the to merce of Australasia per head of population is exceeded by the country except Belgium, half of whose trade consists of goods in c transit to and from the north-western and central parts of the co of Europe. Below will be found a statement of the trade of Aus for various periods since the year 1825, prior to which date no i tion is available :—

Year.	Trade of Australasia.	
	Total Value.	Value per head.
	£	£ s. d.
1825	511,998	10 13 11
1841	5,573,000	22 4 0
1851	8,957,610	18 10 7
1861	52,228,207	41 19 10
1871	69,474,064	35 18 4
1881	101,710,967	36 12 7

[illegible] 1891, of which the period from 1881 to 1891 accounted for no less [illegible] £1 1s. This, however, does not show the full extent of the [illegible] in trade, for the prices of produce—especially of wool, which [illegible] the staple product of these colonies since very early years—had [illegible] heavily during the same period. From 1891 till 1894, the trade [illegible] Australasia seriously declined, a state of affairs partly brought about [illegible] the continued fall in prices and partly resulting from the financial [illegible] of 1893. Since 1894, however, as shown by the table, the value [illegible] steadily increased, reaching its maximum in 1899 with a sum of £[illegible],248,140, the largest total yet recorded, and thus proving that the [illegible] have now shaken off to a great extent the ill effects of the [illegible] of depression.

The following series of tables shows the distribution of the total trade [illegible] Australasia, and also of the Australian Commonwealth, for the years [illegible], 1891, and 1899, with the average value per head of population. The first table represents the imports:

State	Total Value of Imports.			Value per Inhabitant.		
	1881.	1891.	1899.	1881.	1891.	1899.
	£	£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
[illegible] Wales	17,587,012	25,[illegible],397	25,594,315	23 2 7	22 3 11	19 0 6
[illegible]	16,718,[illegible]	21,7[illegible],008	17,[illegible],894	19 4 3	18 19 1	15 9 1
[illegible]	4,[illegible],025	[illegible],79,[illegible]	[illegible]	18 5 6	12 12 11	14 3 8
[illegible] Australia	5,120,[illegible]49	10,051,[illegible]23	[illegible],987,284	19 4 3	31 2 4	18 19 9
[illegible] Australia	[illegible]	1,[illegible]	4,47[illegible]	13 14 3	25 2 5	26 7 7
[illegible]	1,431,144	2,[illegible],364	1,763,[illegible]24	12 5 0	13 15 6	9 16 10
[illegible] Commonwealth	45,525,682	65,557,189	63,[illegible]41,446	19 18 7	20 [illegible] 0	17 3 4
New Zealand	7,457,045	6,503,840	8,[illegible]39,683	15 2 7	10 6 6	11 13 1
Australasia	52,0[illegible]2,727	72,0[illegible]1,038	72,281,079	19 1 7	18 15 1	16 4 9

The values of the total exports for the same years were as given [illegible] —

State	Total Value of Exports.			Value per Inhabitant.		
	1881.	1891.	1899.	1881.	1891.	1899.
	£	£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
[illegible] Wales	16,[illegible]	25,914,020	28,445,466	21 9 0	22 13 0	21 2 11
[illegible]	1[illegible],252,10[illegible]	1,[illegible]43	18,[illegible]	18 13 6	13 [illegible] 6	15 19 7
[illegible]	[illegible]	8,[illegible]	11,[illegible]	15 18 6	20 13 6	25 0 9
[illegible] Australia	4,508,[illegible]54	1,[illegible],410	8,[illegible]	16 5 7	32 19 0	23 2 7
[illegible] Australia	[illegible]	[illegible]	6,[illegible],642	17 0 8	15 13 9	41 3 10
[illegible]	1,[illegible]	1,4[illegible],818	2,[illegible],475	[illegible] 6 3	9 13 6	14 6 0
[illegible] Commonwealth	42,607,574	63,138,[illegible]	77,028,726	18 13 6	19 14 0	20 16 3
New Zealand	6,060,866	9,566,307	11,[illegible],335	12 5 11	15 3 10	15 18 4
Australasia	48,728,24[illegible]	72,705,247	88,[illegible],061	17 11 0	18 18 6	19 19 9

[illegible] was as follows:—

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Value per Inhabitant							
	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1881.			1891			[illegible]	
		£	£	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	44	11	7	44	17	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	37	17	9	32	18	7	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	34	4	2	33	6	5	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	25	9	10	64	1	4	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	30	14	11	40	16	2	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	25	11	3	23	8	11	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	12	1	40	3	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	8	6	25	10	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	36	12	7	37	13	7	[illegible]	[illegible]

[illegible] of tables is the very ma[illegible] [illegible] received during the p[illegible] [illegible] inhabitant, the value tr[illegible] [illegible] without parallel in [illegible] [illegible] however, not drawn altog[illegible] [illegible] more than £5,731,000, or [illegible] [illegible] £[illegible],000, or £8 6s. 3d [illegible] [illegible] District of New South Wales [illegible] [illegible] outlet and it must also [illegible] [illegible] of goods on their way [illegible] [illegible] South Australia when they ar[illegible] [illegible] New South Wales when they cross [illegible] [illegible] per head from 1891 [illegible] [illegible] the falling off in the Bar[illegible]

[illegible] was valued at no less t[illegible] [illegible] great measure to the [illegible] [illegible] generally, the total [illegible] [illegible] year shown in the ta[illegible] [illegible] amount yet recorded [illegible] [illegible] total trade are in [illegible] [illegible] 1881, while as compa[illegible] [illegible] a decrease in imp[illegible] [illegible] value of trade Victoria [illegible]

Australia each show a decrease. If the figures for the years
nd 1891 be compared for the States comprising the Common-
lth it will be found that, while there is a diminution of upwards
000,000 in the total value of imports, the exports show an
e amounting to nearly £14,000,000, while the value of the total
dvanced during the period in question from £128,696,039 to
70,172, representing an expansion of upwards of £11,800,000.

Intercolonial Trade.

rade shown in the above series of tables represents, not only the
e transacted with countries outside Australasia, but the trade
ned by the colonies with one another. This intercolonial trade,
orms a considerable proportion of the total which has just been
th, reached its highest point in 1899 with a total of £63,551,288.
roportion to population the average is somewhat lower than
r the years 1871 and 1891. The following figures represent
l value of this important branch of the general trade, as well as
e per inhabitant. It is obvious that the total intercolonial trade
shown by the table represents in reality twice the actual value of
ssing from one colony to another, the same merchandise figuring
place as exports, and in another as imports. The value of goods
through a colony on their way to foreign countries, as well as of
ported from abroad and re-exported, is, of course, also included
gures. The actual movement is therefore less than half of the
ven below.—

Year.	Total	Value per Inhabitant.
	£	£ s. d.
1861	17,186,925	13 16 0
1871	29,745,068	15 7 6
1881	37,156,289	13 8 4
1891	60,114,797	15 12 11
1899	63,551,288	14 5 6

igures given in the following table represent the total inter-
trade of each colony in 1881, 1891, and 1899, and although
affected by the circumstances just mentioned, they afford

interesting evidence of the way in which the prosperity of one province is bound up with that of the others :—

State.	1881.	1891.	1899.	1881.	1891.	1899.
	£	£	£	per cent	per cent	per cent
New South Wales..	13,211,372	22,730,348	21,637,669	35·6	37·8	34·0
Victoria	10,686,172	13,575,205	13,590,102	[illegible]	22·6	21·4
Queensland . ..	4,810,286	6,822,366	10,025,250	12·9	11·3	15·8
South Australia	3,089,466	11,034,215	7,586,154	8·3	18·4	11·9
Western Australia.	341,156	822,125	5,249,931	0·9	1·4	8·3
Tasmania . .	2,027,781	2,411,428	2,417,318	5·5	4·0	3·8
New Zealand ...	2,990,056	2,719,110	3,044,864	8·0	4·5	4·8
Australasian Exports & Imports	37,156,289	60,114,797	63,551,288	100·0	100·0	100·0

Extra Australasian Trade.

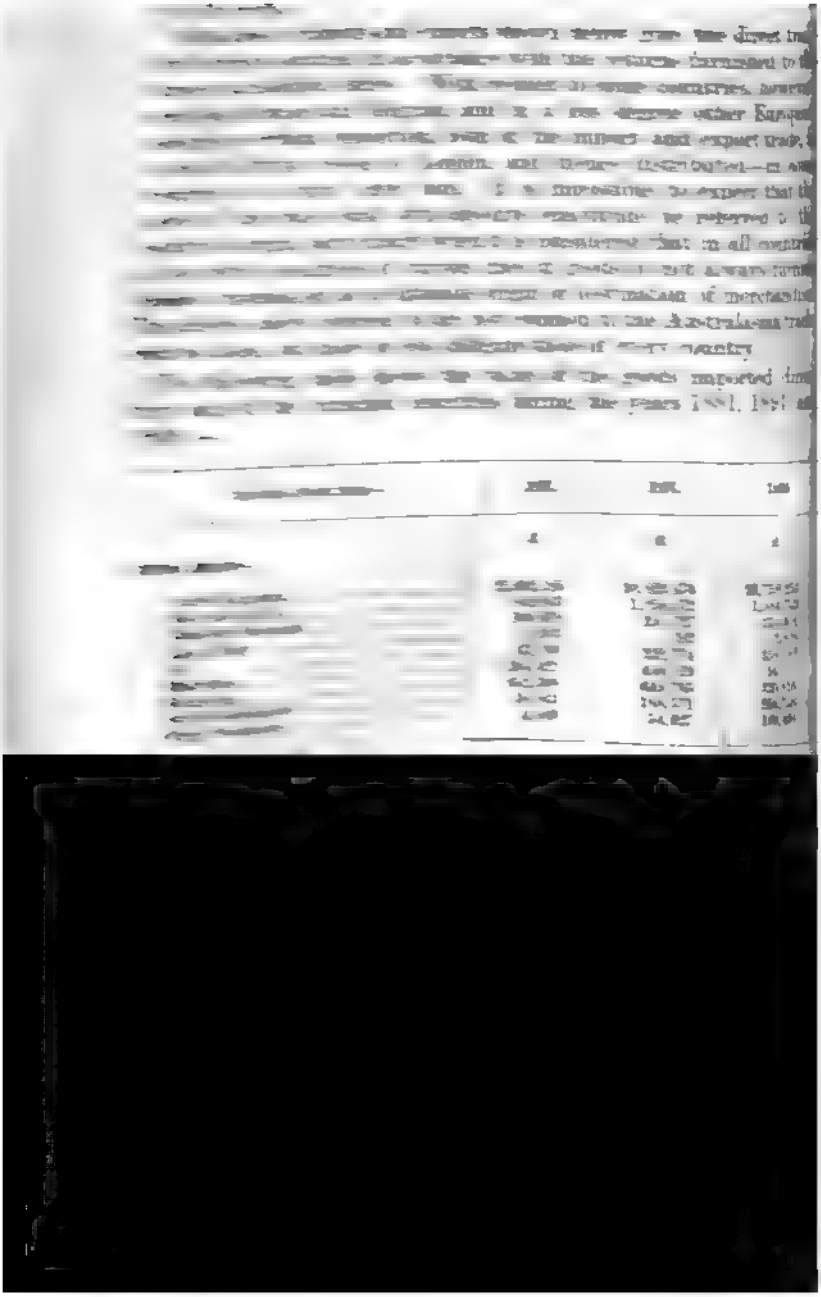
If Australasia be regarded as a whole, and an elimination made of the real trade which the provinces carry on with each other, as well as the value of the goods which pass through one colony on their way to another, as shown under the heading of Intercolonial trade, the total and average amounts will, of course, be greatly reduced. Such an elimination has been made in the following table, which shows the growth since 1861 of what may be called the external trade that is, trade transacted with all countries outside of Australasia :—

Year.	External Trade.	
	Total Value.	Value per head.
	£	£ s. d.
1861	35,061,282	28 3 10
1871	39,729,016	20 10 10
1881	64,554,678	23 6 3
1891	84,651,488	22 0 8
1899	97,696,852	21 18 11

By far the greater part of the external trade of Australasia is carried on with the United Kingdom; and of the remainder the larger portion is transacted with foreign countries, principally France, Germany, Belgium, and the United States. The trade with British possessions, which for a few years had considerably declined in value, reached in 1899 a total of nearly £9,600,000, a figure largely in excess of that for any previous year shown in the table. The subjoined table shows the distribution of the external trade between the three divisions named.

Trade with—		1861	1871.	1881.	1891.	1899.
		£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	Imports	13,467,870	12,008,419	25,662,185	30,823,474	26,758,254
	Exports	12,207,228	18,486,703	24,342,492	42,638,841	35,902,255
	Total	25,674,398	30,493,122	50,004,607	93,462,315	62,750,509
British Possessions	Imports	1,767,391	2,382,148	3,078,195	3,094,417	3,926,269
	Exports	3,656,065	764,652	4,257,961	2,231,608	6,572,830
	Total	5,423,456	3,146,800	7,336,156	5,326,025	9,500,099
Foreign Countries	Imports	3,216,738	2,245,124	4,683,326	7,400,424	10,220,230
	Exports	746,490	3,843,370	2,010,589	8,372,724	15,108,014
	Total	3,963,228	6,089,064	7,215,015	15,803,148	25,347,244
Total	Imports	18,451,499	16,635,691	33,343,706	41,408,315	40,923,753
	Exports	16,609,783	23,095,325	31,210,072	43,243,173	57,673,099
	Total	35,061,282	39,729,016	64,554,078	84,651,488	97,596,852

Prior to the year 1883 the European trade of Australasia was almost exclusively carried on with the United Kingdom, but since that time direct commercial relations have been established with the leading Continental countries. The British trade increased during the ten years from 1891 by £13,457,708, equal to nearly 27 per cent., while the trade with foreign countries increased during the same period by £8,649,233, or over 120 per cent. From 1891 to 1899, chiefly due to the cultivation of direct business relations with the Continent of Europe, trade with the United Kingdom decreased by £711,806; while the foreign trade increased during the same period by the large sum of £9,484,096. The trade with British possessions was returned in 1899 as £9,599,099, against £5,326,025 in 1891, and £7,336,156 in 1881. As compared with 1891, the year 1899 shows a decrease in trade with the United



The external exports for the same periods were as follow:—

Exports direct to—	1881.	1891	1899
[illegible]	£	£	£
[illegible]	24,342,422	32,638,841	[illegible]
[illegible]	3,153,855	1,000,87[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Dominion		40	[illegible]
[illegible]	314,400	171,4[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	15[illegible]	16[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	359,[illegible]	491,771	445,[illegible]
[illegible] Settlements	48,767	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Possessions	137,[illegible]	142,[illegible]	[illegible]
Total	28,000,383	34,8[illegible],443	42,[illegible]
[illegible] Countries			
[illegible] New Caledonia	336,498	1,835,784	3,[illegible]
[illegible]	70,[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	152,[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	100,437	1,48[illegible]	2,247,[illegible]
[illegible] Norway			[illegible]
[illegible] States	1,208,905	3,20[illegible]	3,297,[illegible]
[illegible] and Java	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Islands	14[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	78,[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Countries	371,451	600,732	1,54[illegible]
Total	2,619,589	8,[illegible]	15,108,614
Total, British and foreign	31,210,972	43,[illegible]	57,[illegible]

The values of the combined imports and exports were as given below:—

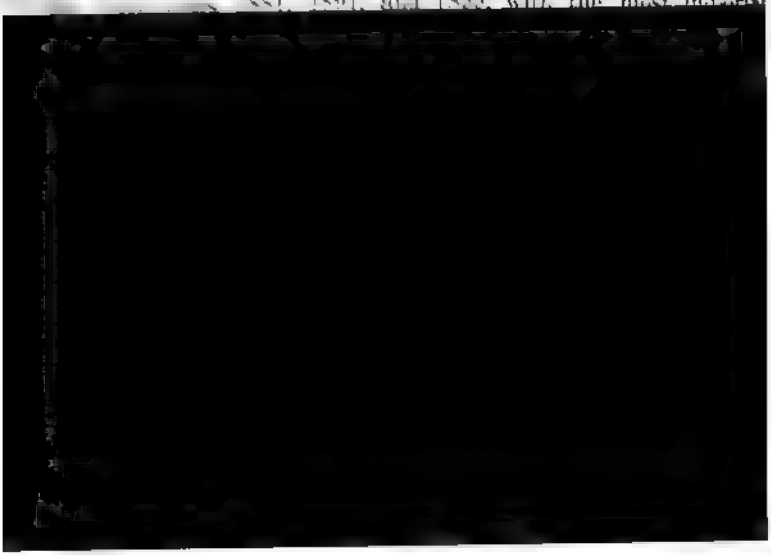
Total direct trade with	1881	1891	1899
[illegible]	£	£	£
[illegible]	50,004,607	63,[illegible]	62,750,500
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Dominion	10[illegible]	151,[illegible]	388,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	171,[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	221,10[illegible]	4[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Settlements	97,810	330,814	[illegible]
[illegible] Possessions	14[illegible]	197,[illegible]	941,304
Total British	57,340,768	68,[illegible]	72,[illegible]
[illegible]			
[illegible] New Caledonia	677,248	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	160,[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	12[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Norway	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	2,891,[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] and Java	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Islands	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	77,864	[illegible]
[illegible] Countries	478,[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Total Foreign	7,[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Total British and Foreign	64,554,[illegible]	84,[illegible]	[illegible]

Trade with the United Kingdom.

[illegible] make a useful comparison of the value of the Austral[asian] trade with the United Kingdom, it is necessary to use the British I[mports] & Exports returns, and these returns have been used in the ensuing [table]. The figures relating to Australasia, especially for late[r] years, approximate very closely to the local Customs statistics. From the [table] will be observed that while in 1881 the produce of these col[onies] formed 25·5 per cent. of the imports of the United Kingdom fro[m] possessions in 1891 the proportion was 31·4 per cent., and in 1899 [it] was 31·2 per cent :—

Year	As returned by British Customs.		Proportion of Imp[orts] from Australasia to [Total] from British Posse[ssions]
	Total Imports from British Possessions.	Imports from Australasia.	
	£	£	per cent.
1881	91,339,660	26,975,381	29·5
1891	99,464,718	31,261,566	31·4
1899	106,823,293	33,321,762	31·2

Although it is very little more than a century since the commence[ment] of Australasian settlement, an examination of the trade statistics o[f] another country with her numerous dependencies shows that the [trade] of these colonies with the United Kingdom is now only exceede[d] that of India, while it is nearly double that of Canada, and in a h[igher] degree exceeds the trade of any other British possession. The follo[wing] table, which is also compiled from the returns of the Board of T[rade] shows the total trade of the United Kingdom, exclusive of specie [for] 1881, 1891, and 1899, with the most important



, a comparison be made of the total trade transacted by the ingdom with all countries during the year 1899, it will be the trade with Australasia, amounting to £58,061,693 as ve, was only exceeded by that carried on with four countries, e United States, with a total of £155,056,660; France, with 00; Germany, with £68,101,315; and British India, with 14. The amounts taken by other countries will be found it must be noted that the values given do not include specie:—

...ry	1881.	1891.	1899.	Proportion to Total Trade of United Kingdom. 1881.	1891	1899.
	£	£	£	per cent	per cent	per cent
...	70,069,848	69,114,136	75,277,800	10·1	9·3	9·2
...	52,927,199	56,976,104	68,101,315	7·6	7·7	8·4
...	25,047,833	30,525,737	37,448,516	3·6	4·1	4·6
...	38,295,414	42,290,587	44,517,957	5·5	5·7	5·5
...	14,421,326	16,[illegible]50,936	20,192,186	2·1	2·2	2·5
...	10,702,615	10,272,329	11,363,080	1·6	1·2	1·4
...	139,990,876	145,475,197	155,056,660	20·2	19·5	19·0
...ublic	4,000,090	7,817,256	17,459,916	0·6	1·0	2·1
...	5,417,363	5,916,225	6,665,088	0·8	0·8	0·8
...	13,254,733	12,855,202	9,592,792	1·9	1·7	1·2
...	1,881,522	1,568,891	1,600,909	0·3	0·2	0·2
...	50,957,785	59,499,319	58,061,693	7·3	8·0	7·1

Trade with Foreign Countries.

ear steamers of greater tonnage and higher speed are visiting s from Europe, and a considerable expansion of commerce cessity take place, owing to the new outlets for trade which opened up thereby. The value of Australasian imports from pal foreign countries may be traced below from the year

...untry	1861	1871.	1881.	1891	1899.
	£	£	£	£	£
...			26,713	321,025	374,100
...w Caledonia	136,124	158,992	340,750	366,035	567,651
...	109,172	3,899	225,672	1,773,277	2,244,154
...d Java	114,304	194,519	466,444	654,060	143,518
...			7,874	58,484	125,784
...rway	22,668	106,720	259,156	459,414	383,[illegible]
...	827,347	874,925	1,4[illegible]0,993	600,143	30[illegible],[illegible]05
...			23,245	61,286	271,207
...de	40,200	135,000	124,447	78,285	19[illegible],469
...	1,086,673	616,625	1,593,088	2,920,1[illegible]5	5,23[illegible],607
...	886,252	154,[illegible]84	104,944	95,700	386,94[illegible]
	3,216,738	2,245,124	4,603,326	7,490,421	10,239,239

In order to mak
trade to the Unit
of Trade returns,
parisons. The L
approximate very
it will be obse
formed 29·5 p
possessions, in t
less, viz., 31·2

Year.	T
1881	
1891	
1899	

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(Great

n between the great wool exporting cities of Sydney, Mel- Adelaide and the ports of Antwerp, Hamburg, and Dunkirk. also established a line of steamships; and the latest ce ny to the growing importance of Australasia is the ng of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamers between rts and Sydney. In addition to the companies mentioned, lines run their vessels direct to Continental ports • t of these efforts to establish commercial relations is evident rease of trade which the foregoing table discloses, and from n, now rapidly being effected, in the channel by which the d for Europe reaches the market. The example of the South Republics, the bulk of whose produce now finds a market at Antwerp, Hamburg, Havre, and Dunkirk without passing ndon, was not lost on Continental buyers. It was manifest shipments of wool to Europe could as readily be made from Melbourne as from Buenos Ayres or Monte Video, hence se in the local markets, in increasing numbers, of buyers ng Continental firms.

asia has for many years maintained important commercial with the United States of America, and in 1899 America's the trade of Australasia with foreign countries was about 34 The greater part of this trade was carried on with the colonies South Wales, Victoria, and New Zealand. The main exports United States are specie, wool, coal, kauri gum, and New flax—chiefly the two first mentioned: so that, though large in nal amount, the trade is less valuable than would at first sight The export of wool, which had formerly been unimportant, ed in 1891 to £514,551, an increase of £325,314 over the total previous year, but this high value has not been maintained, and to tariff changes in the United States there was a fall to 40 in 1894, followed by a rise to £441,049 in 1896, while the for 1899 stood at £319,128.

ier present conditions no extension of commercial relations with nited States can be looked forward to; but trade with the East good promise for the future, especially with India, China, Japan, he East Indian Archipelago, where markets for Australasian wool possibly in time be found little in that direction having been plished up to the present time. As mentioned above, Japan has ished a national line of steamers to foster the trade between that try and Australasia: and with the abolition of the duty on wool, and benefits to be derived from wearing woollen clothing impressed upon people, there ought to be a good opening in that country for the staple uct of these colonies. The foundation of such a trade has already and down, the exports of wool from New South Wales ports to in 1899 being valued at about £78,000. A large amount of is already transacted with India and Ceylon, and this trade fair to increase, particularly in the tea of those places, which now

overland cannot be traced beyond the colony to which they are
st instance despatched—all that can be given is the trade by
h the following series of tables shows. The imports from
outside Australasia for the states comprising the Common-
gether with the total for the seven colonies, were as follow :—

ate.	Total Value.			Value per Inhabitant.		
	1881.	1891	1899.	1881.	1891	1899.
	£	£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Vales	11,357,096	14,250,219	13,490,913	14 18 9	12 9 4	10 0 3
. . . . .	10,768,791	13,045,493	9,546,064	12 7 6	11 7 9	8 4 1
.. ..	1,492 395	3,183,209	3,760,214	6 14 3	7 18 6	7 17 11
lia	3,500,917	4,038,763	3,116,209	12 17 7	12 10 1	8 9 5
ralia .	208,743	666,958	2,161,175	7 1 5	13 12 11	12 14 10
... .	445 570	698,073	550,382	3 16 3	4 13 10	3 1 3
wealth .. .	27,839,428	35,918,015	32,620,948	12 3 9	11 4 1	8 16 3
.. . . .	5,504,278	5,490,300	7,402,305	11 3 4	8 14 4	9 17 5
asia	33,343,706	41,408,315	40,023,753	12 0 10	10 15 7	8 19 10

ports to countries outside Australasia were as follow :

ate.	Total Value.			Value per Inhabitant.		
	1881.	1891	1899.	1881.	1891	1899.
	£	£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Vales	9,326,349	14,340,850	18,921,199	12 5 4	12 10 10	14 1 4
.....	11,515,661	11,097,653	13,384,508	15 4 8	9 13 9	11 10 5
. .	1,201,400	3,378,816	4,915,491	5 17 1	8 8 3	10 0 2
lia .	3,172,920	5,620,561	4,794,435	11 9 2	17 8 0	13 0 7
ralia	357,702	562,076	4,048,068	12 2 4	11 0 7	23 17 5
	513,363	382,331	1,379,099	4 7 10	2 11 4	7 13 5
wealth ..	26,187,395	35,382,337	47,442,800	11 9 3	11 0 9	12 16 4
.	5,023,577	7,860,836	10,230,299	10 3 10	12 9 7	13 12 10
asia .. .	31,210,972	43,243,173	57,673,099	11 5 5	11 5 1	12 16 1

... as follows :—

				Value per inhab...	
					1891
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

... and export ... The imports of New ... nearly 3 millions ... in excess of the ... 1881 by over 5 mi... about £4,780,000. Th... the same rat... 1881, while the e... an increase in ... The Tasmanian ... £... on that of ... per cent. as com... those of 1891, ... than they w... those of ... years. The va... 2,890,000 more th... by over 100 pe... from 1881 to 1891 ... about £583,000 in ... in 1899 were over £... Western Australia ... from 1891 to 1899 ... sevenfold from 18... gold being exported ... however, can be ... known, some of the provin... not yet in a position to ma... comparison with the ...

... considered, New South Wales ... valued at £32,402,112. Victoria, ... New Zealand ranks third, w...

de of £17,633,104. Taking all the colonies together, the external ports and exports combined equal a trade of £21 18s. 11d. per habitant—a falling off of 1s. 9d as compared with 1891, and of 7s. 1d. as compared with 1881. It is interesting to compare the ue of the external trade of Australasia with the latest returns of er countries.

Country	Total Trade			Per Inhabitant.		
	Merchandise.	Specie and Bullion.	Total			
	£	£	£	£	s.	d.
United Kingdom	764,392,571	110,614,460	875,007,031	21	15	5
France .	410,244,000	46,772,000	457,016,000	11	18	10
Germany .	472,160,000	30,650,000	502,810,000	9	5	2
Italy	114,907,000	922,000	115,829,000	3	13	2
Belgium . ..	251,057,000	20,657,000	272,014,000	40	17	6
Spain	65,696,000	3,701,000	69,396,000	3	9	0
Cape Colony	41,044,767	956,372	42,001 139	21	12	9
Canada	64 390 957	1.794, 477	66 185,434	12	15	3
United States ...	384,903,000	46,215,000	431,118,000	5	18	5
Australasia . .	85,001,229	12,695,623	97,696,852	21	18	11

he trade of Australasia per head of population exceeds that of any ntry appearing in the list with the exception of Belgium.

n excess in the value of imports over exports was for many years a nt feature of the trade of Australasia taken as a whole, although ome colonies the reverse was the case. The surplus of imports was to two causes: (1) the importation, by the Governments and local ies of the various colonies, of money to cover the cost of construc of public works; and (2) the private capital sent to Australasia for stment. Taking the colonies as a whole, these two items combined ceed the payments made for interest on past loans, both public and vate, and the sums drawn from the country by absentees, but as ly all the colonies have ceased to borrow, or the amount of their owing has fallen below their yearly payments for interest, the ole of Australasia now shows an excess of exports, and the same fact also exhibited in the trade returns for 1899 for all the colonies. present excess of exports and its cause come more properly within parts of this work dealing with Public and Private Finance, and are t with at some length there.

Exports of Domestic Produce.

The values of the exports of Australasia and of its various provinces ve been given in the previous pages without respect to the countries ere the articles were produced. It is important to find to what ent the exports have been the produce of each of the colonies whence y were shipped. The following table shows the value of the exports

as returned by the Customs for
and the value thereof per inhabitant –

	Total Value.			Value per Inhabitant.					
	1881.	1891.	1900.	1881.			1891.		
	£	£	£	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
	[illegible]	[illegible]	19,221,354	14	1	11	18	8	9
	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	14	0	10	21	7	6
	[illegible]	[illegible]	11,607,139	15	12	11	19	17	6
	[illegible]	[illegible]	4,484,782	13	11	3	14	17	10
	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible],046	16	17	10	15	9	7
	[illegible]	[illegible]	2,567,815	13	5	0	9	3	8
	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible],566	14	4	11	15	16	1
	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible],746	11	13	9	14	18	6
	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible],330	13	15	11	15	4	6

[illegible] be regarded as merely approxim
[illegible] exactitude the domestic export
[illegible] New South Wales, South Australia,
[illegible] country, a large proportion of
[illegible] former years, of New South W
[illegible] is now comparatively small. T
[illegible] as local produce, of wool grow
[illegible] is by no means large. W
[illegible] years been exported as dom
[illegible] no such overstatement
[illegible] New South Wales tin and copper ore,
[illegible] and Tasmania and the latter from So
[illegible] of being refined,
[illegible] has been made to rem
[illegible] as they are presented i
[illegible] ing table may be acc
[illegible] exported by each colony dur

Domestic Exports.

	Total Value.	Proportion to Total.	Value per Inhabitant.		
	£	per cent.	£	s.	d.
	[illegible]	27·5	14	5	8
	[illegible]	19·7	11	17	5
	[illegible]	16·7	24	10	6
	[illegible]	5·8	11	1	3
	[illegible]	9·7	40	1	3
	[illegible]	3·7	14	4	7
	[illegible]	16·9	15	14	8
	[illegible]	100·0	15	14	2

As the table shows, the largest values per inhabitant were returned by Western Australia and Queensland, with £40 1s. 3d. and £24 10s. 6d respectively per head of population. The growth of the domestic exports of Western Australia has been extremely rapid, the total value rising from £1,273,638 at the end of 1895 to £6,793,946 for the year 1899, an increase of over 433 per cent. Of course, this great expansion is in the main due to the export of gold, the value of the total export of the precious metal being returned at £5,451,368 in 1899 as against £879,748 in 1895. With regard to Queensland, a great increase has taken place in the exports of such articles as gold, pearl shell, sugar and various pastoral products. Tasmania also shows a large increase both in actual and comparative value of domestic export trade, the returns for 1899 showing a total value of £2,557,315, with £14 4s. 7d per head of population, as against £1,473,283 and £9 0s. 3d. in 1898. The phenomenal mineral export of 1899, when the gross total reached the sum of £1,465,000, is chiefly accountable for this expansion, and so far as can be seen, there is every prospect of this expansion being sustained.

Placing the values of the external exports of domestic production of Australasia side by side with those of some of the more important countries of the world, a useful comparison is afforded, and from whatever standpoint the matter be viewed these colonies appear in a very favourable light. The following table shows the value of the domestic exports, exclusive of coin and bullion, of some of the principal countries of the world, the figures referring to the year 1898. The figures for Australasia only represent the external exports of domestic produce; in the preceding table the values include the domestic produce of each colony consumed in the other provinces.

Country.	Exports of Domestic Produce (exclusive of Coin and Bullion).	Value per Inhabitant.
	£	£ s. d.
United Kingdom	233,359,240	5 16 1
France	140,436,000	3 13 5
Germany	187,830,000	3 9 2
Austria Hungary	67,302,000	1 10 4
Italy	48,143,000	1 10 5
Belgium	71,480,000	10 16 3
Canada	34,198,560	6 11 10
Argentine Republic	26,766,000	5 17 0
United States	252,144,000	3 9 3
Australasia	37,080,958	8 6 7

The extent to which the geographical position of a colony enables it to benefit by the production of its neighbours is illustrated by the proportion which the non-domestic bear to the total exports. The following table shows the value of the re-export trade and the proportion

which it bears to the total export trade of each colony in 1899 and it would appear that South Australia, New South Wales, and Victoria in the order named, benefit largely by their position, the re-export trade of the other colonies being insignificant:—

State.	Re-exports.	Proportion to Total Exports.
	£	per cent.
New South Wales	9,223,612	32·4
Victoria	4,521,180	24·4
Queensland	245,719	2·0
South Australia	4,421,773	52·0
Western Australia	191,696	2·7
Tasmania	20,160	0·8
Commonwealth	18,635,140	24·2
New Zealand	138,595	1·2
Australasia	18,773,735	21·1

Three-fifths of this re-export trade is external, the amount being £9,189,117, as compared with £6,358,660 of intercolonial trade.

The Wool Trade.

The rapid growth of the Continental wool trade during the periods from 1881 to 1891, and from 1891 to 1899, is illustrated by the following table, which shows the value of the staple exported direct to the principal countries, and the proportion of the total amount taken by each:—

Country	Value			Proportion		
	1881.	1891.	1899.	1881.	1891.	1899.
	£	£	£	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
United Kingdom	15,777,327	19,891,218	15,245,201	97·8	82·7	[illegible]
Belgium	96,557	1,453,755	2,018,285	0·6	6·0	8·6
Germany	33,809	782,676	2,020,537	0·3	3·3	8·7
France	26,905	1,386,768	3,205,230	0·2	5·8	13·8
United States	132,690	514,551	319,128	0·8	2·1	1·4
Other Countries	48,725	34,259	361,210	0·3	0·1	1·5
Total	16,130,082	24,063,227	23,259,600	100·0	100·0	100·0

As the table shows, there has been an increase of considerably over seven millions sterling in the value of wool shipped from Australasia since 1881. Since 1891, however, there has been a decline in value

the extent of over £800,000. This decline is accounted for by the fact that during the last few years the total number of sheep has decreased enormously, owing to severe and protracted droughts. In 1891, the sheep depastured in the colonies numbered 124,548,000, but at the end of 1899, the total had fallen to 93,645,000, a decrease of nearly 31 millions. It will be observed that the wool exported to the United Kingdom has decreased in value to the extent of £523,000, or from 67·8 to 65·5 per cent., while the export to foreign countries, with one exception, has increased both absolutely and relatively.

It is necessary to point out here that all the figures in the present chapter dealing with the export of wool are based on the Customs returns of the different colonies, and represent the values placed on the wool by the exporters. The figures relating to the value of the wool per lb. which are given in the chapter on the pastoral industry are less than those just given the difference being made up of the cost of carriage and other charges from the sheep-runs to the ship's side.

The following table shows the total and proportionate value of the wool shipped direct to countries outside Australasia by each colony :—

State	Value.			Proportion		
	1881	1891.	1899	1881.	1891	1899
	£	£	£	per cent.	per cent	per cent
New South Wales..	4,485,295	7,917,587	9,426,119	27·8	32·9	40·5
Victoria	5,327,034	7,070,661	5,615,922	33·0	29·4	24·1
Queensland	906,047	2,438,321	1,669,768	6·2	10·1	7·2
South Australia	1,747,696	1,888,107	1,610,145	10·8	7·8	6·9
Western Australia.	250,689	311,925	415,926	1·6	1·3	1·8
Tasmania	416,572	313,422	224,253	2·6	1·3	1·0
New Zealand	2,905,849	4,123,204	4,299,167	18·0	17·2	18·5
Australasia	16,136,082	24,063,227	23,250,600	100·0	100·0	100·0

It will be seen from the table just given that Victoria was credited in 1881 with exporting wool to a considerable value in excess of that of New South Wales. In 1891 and 1899, however, the positions were reversed. In 1881 the wool produced in other colonies, chiefly New South Wales, but credited to Victoria, was valued at £2,780,600; in 1891 £2,767,000, but in 1899, a careful discrimination was made by the Victorian Customs Department between wool of actual Victorian production and that produced by the other colonies. The wool imported from other colonies and credited to New South Wales for the year 1891 was £109,000, while for 1899 there was no such over statement. South Australia also receives a large quantity of New South Wales wool for shipment, though not nearly to so great an extent as Victoria.

In connection with this subject, a statement of the value of wool of home production which each colony exports direct and by way

interest. The figures,

Wool Exported.

	By way of the other colonies.	Total.
£	£	£
[illegible]	2,219,431	10,149,563
[illegible]	62,050	3,350,351
[illegible]	1,716,085	3,379,179
[illegible]	192,769	1,504,901
[illegible]	7,370	423,296
224,453	132,812	357,065
4,299,167	25,004	4,324,171
[illegible]	4,355,521	23,488,526

[illegible] the preceding page the value of the [illegible] The apparent discrep[illegible] remembered that about one-fi[illegible] to valuation first at the border [illegible] again at the port from which [illegible] In the amount of £23,48[illegible] the value of such wool as was exp[illegible], and there held over fo[illegible]

[illegible] strate the development of the [illegible] sales are held, viz., in New S[illegible], South Australia, and New Zealand [illegible] The seasons are tak[illegible] 30th June. The number of [illegible]

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	South Australia.	New Zealand.	To[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	bales.	bales.	bales	bal[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]		43,799	57,106	581,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]		58,011	62,456	697,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]		54,285	85,505	813,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]		65,000	82,547	854,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]		64,056	82,547	899,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]		80,234	82,965	894,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]		63,804	82,515	848,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]		51,287	100,514	884,[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	10,925	60,531	90,806	888,[illegible]
[illegible]	312,571	27,015	70,717	108,846	913,[illegible]

importance of the pastoral industry to Australasia will be made another part of this volume. Its value to each colony varies ably, as the statement hereunder shows. In no colony, however, Australia and Tasmania excepted, does the proportion of of this class fall below 30 per cent. of the total value of domestic exported. In the case of New South Wales it reaches about ent., while in New Zealand it is 59 per cent., and in Queensland ent.:—

State.	Wool.	Other Pastoral Produce.	Total.	Proportion of Exports of Pastoral Produce to Total Exports of Domestic Products.
	£	£	£	per cent.
th Wales . . .	10,149,563	2,606,733	12,756,296	66·4
. . . . .	3,350,351	1,214,517	4,564,868	32 5
nd	3,370,179	3,421,456	6,860,635	58·2
tralia	1,504,901	512,912	2,017,813	49 5
Australia	423,296	94,087	517,383	7·6
. . . . .	357,065	126,086	483,151	18·9
nd	4,324,171	2,660,796	6,984,967	59·2
sia				
omestic ..	23,488,526	10,636,587	34,125,113	48 8
nal Domestic	19,133,005	6,966,652	26,099,657	76·5

be observed that the figures given in this table are not those by the various Customs Departments; they have been corrected anner already explained in order to allow for the incorrect tion furnished by shippers in regard to the colony of origin.

Movements of Gold.

the discovery of gold in the year 1851 large quantities of the in the form of coin as well as of bullion—have been exported Australasian colonies every year. In the figures given below, the excess of exports of gold of each colony, no attempt has to exclude the intercolonial trade. The largest exporters, it found, are also the largest producers, namely, Victoria, New and Queensland. The other colonies, except Western Australia, have very little more than what suffices to meet their require- The returns of the gold imports and exports for New South e swollen by large quantities of Queensland gold sent to Sydney

of the [illegible] coin, but only the [illegible]
are [illegible]

			1891-[illegible]	
		£	£	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	7,701,[illegible]	[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] of goods imported [illegible] 784, which is equa[illegible] [illegible] to a consideration [illegible] varies very greatly [illegible] but for the same [illegible] diverse causes. First, [illegible] the purchasing power of the [illegible] although the rise or fa[illegible] [illegible] of such influ[illegible] [illegible] Western Australia, [illegible] own requirements [illegible] to depend to a gre[illegible] [illegible] in the rev[illegible] [illegible] Similar [illegible] [illegible] from live [illegible] [illegible] also be remember[illegible] [illegible] systematic borrow is [illegible] been the recipients of [illegible] [illegible] persons. As loans of [illegible] [illegible] in the form of goods, [illegible] [illegible] expectations is the subject of [illegible] [illegible] naturally years of large rev[illegible] [illegible] cessation of the flow of for[illegible] [illegible] revenue. Furthermore, there [illegible] [illegible] affecting the revenue during [illegible] [illegible] In New South Wales [illegible] Western Australia in 1893 and 1896, rad[illegible] [illegible] and in other years minor alterations [illegible]

nearly all the other colonies. To these changes is chiefly
ue any sharp rise or fall in the rate of revenue per inhabitant.
me time, it must be allowed that tariff changes have been made
ve affected the collections to a very slight extent.
ng generally, it may be said that the Customs revenue is
, and is likely to decline. Apart from the specific causes
d above, other effective if less obtrusive influences are at work.
rear the industries of the colonies are being developed, and the
ucer is acquiring a firm hold upon the domestic markets. In
the provinces little if any revenue is now received from duties
tural produce, as such produce is not imported: and many des-
of manufactured goods have likewise ceased to be introduced,
-made article being produced in sufficient quantities to meet
nd. There can be no reasonable doubt that this tendency
ll more marked in the future, and it is, therefore, not surprising
tralasian Treasurers have of late years found it necessary to
her sources than the Customs for the revenue necessary to
the business of the country.
as the duties payable may be taken as a basis of classification,
ds may be divided into two classes—one comprising intoxicants
otics, upon which duties equal to an average of about 137
ad valorem are levied, and the other consisting of imports
for taxation at specific or *ad valorem* rates. The value of
s and narcotics imported by the colonies during 1899 for
mption was £2,871,664, while the duties collected thereon
less than £3,929,243, the amounts credited to each colony
llow:—

State.	Imports of Intoxicants and Narcotics for home consumption.	Amount of Import Duties collected.	Proportion to Total Import Duties.
	£	£	
South Wales ...	948,647	1,087,774	81·5
ria	522,572	715,923	37·6
aland ..	423,020	585,953	40·7
h Australia	138,609	195,923	32·5
ern Australia ..	300,413	393,244	47·2
mania	89,134	139,385	32·8
ommonwealth	2,422,395	3,118,202	47·7
Zealand	449,269	811,041	39·6
Australasia ..	2,871,664	3,929,243	45·8

llections represent about 45·8 per cent. of the total Customs
used, the remaining portion being distributed among the
onies as shown below. The total value of imports for home
n—exclusive, of course, of the value of intoxicants, narcotics,

The import duties collected in the various colonies during each of the last six years are set forth in the following table, drawbacks and refunds being deducted from the gross collections of those colonies for which such information can be obtained :—

State	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	2,008,303	1,974,827	1,367,481	1,239,084	1,250,259	1,335,164
Victoria	1,781,086	1,780,082	1,788,118	1,729,130	1,908,051	1,904,105
Queensland . .	1,107,149	1,237,848	1,207,258	1,160,404	1,257,757	1,434,270
South Australia ..	525,267	516,195	574,812	576,496	581 741	603,115
Western Australia. .	409,886	614,457	998.909	1,062,020	836,620	833,158
Tasmania	281,804	303,762	325,418	350,047	405,618	424,490
Commonwealth . .	6,114 085	6.427,171	6,325,476	6,117,621	6,330 076	6,534,332
New Zealand ..	1,572,467	1,619,070	1,765,073	1,912,161	1,961,726	2,046,452
Australasia . ..	7,686,552	8 047,141	8,090,549	8,029,782	8,291,802	8,580,784

The revenue from import duties per head of population offers probably more food for reflection than the figures in the table just given. New South Wales raised the smallest revenue compared with population of any of the colonies of the group until 1891, a circumstance due to the comparatively low rate of the tariff ; in 1892 its collections were about the average for Australasia, but at the beginning of 1896 a new tariff came into force which was designed to make the ports of the colony free to all imports except narcotics and stimulants, and although this intention was not fully carried out, yet the revenue per head of population is now very considerably less than in any of the other colonies. The variations in the rates from year to year are interesting as illustrating the force of the remarks made a few pages back in introducing the subject of Customs duties :—

State	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
New South Wales	1 12 6	1 11 3	1 1 3	0 19 1	0 18 11	0 19 10
Victoria .	1 10 3	1 10 2	1 10 4	1 9 8	1 12 10	1 12 9
Queensland .	2 16 6	2 14 8	2 14 4	2 11 0	2 15 8	3 0 0
South Australia	1 10 1	1 9 1	1 12 0	1 12 0	1 12 0	1 1' 9
Western Australia..	5 11 5	6 14 1	8 7 1	7 1 8	5 8 8	4 18 3
Tasmania	1 16 2	1 18 2	2 0 3	2 1 7	2 6 6	2 7 3
Commonwealth	1 15 11	1 17 0	1 15 10	1 14 0	1 14 7	1 15 4
New Zealand ..	2 6 4	2 0 10	2 10 0	2 13 0	2 13 3	2 14 7
Australasia . .	1 17 5	1 18 4	1 17 10	1 17 2	1 17 9	1 18 7

A general statement of the Customs duties levied in each colony would be of value, but there is so little agreement in the tariffs of the colonies that it is not possible to arrange the duties under general heads

impression of the scope of each. Indeed, it
that the keenest analysis would fail to detect any
underlying the rates of duty charged. Specific duties
consumption were the first sources of revenue
increased from time to time, but have rarely been
imposed. The necessities of the Treasury or other
led to the imposition of *ad valorem* duties. The
which seems to have weighed with the framers
was that raw material required for local manufacture
increased, and even this obvious rule has not infrequently
There seems, however, to be a general tendency
duties. The latest Victorian Customs Tariff has
alterations in this direction, and the present tariff
New South Wales, as mentioned above, is the freest ever introduced
into Australasia.

SOCIAL CONDITION.

THE high rates of wages which have generally prevailed in the Australasian colonies and the cheapness of food have permitted the attainment of a great degree of comfort, if not of luxury, by a class that elsewhere knows little of the one and nothing of the other; and even in these times of trade depression and reduced wages it may safely be said that the position of the wage-earner in Australasia is equal to that occupied by him in any other part of the world. Although the high standard of living is not conducive to thrift, saving has gone on with marked rapidity, notwithstanding the industrial disturbances arising from the great strikes and the bank crisis of 1893. Some idea of the rate and extent of this accumulation of wealth may be gained from the tables showing the growth of deposits with banks. Banking returns, however, afford in themselves but an incomplete view of the picture; it should also be regarded from the standpoint of the expenditure of the people. Both of these subjects are dealt with in other proper places in this volume, and these evidences of the social condition of the people need not, therefore, be further considered here.

Newspapers and Letters.

Few things show more plainly the social superiority of a civilized people than a heavy correspondence and a large distribution of newspapers. In these respects all the colonies of Australasia have for many years been remarkable. In proportion to population it is doubtful whether any country in the world can boast of a larger number or a better class of newspapers than they publish. Great advances were made in this respect between 1871 and 1891, but the rate of progress, both in number and in excellence of production, has been even more marked since the year last named. There are no means of correctly ascertaining the number of newspapers actually printed and distributed in the colonies, because the Post-office carries but a small proportion of the circulation. For purposes of comparison with other countries, however, it may be stated that during the year 1899 no less than [illegible],409 newspapers passed through the Post-offices of the various colonies, giving the large proportion of 24 per head of population. In the same year the number of letters and post-cards carried was [illegible],000,000, being 54 for every person in Australasia. An examination

only nine out of every hundred of the population possess property of the value of £100, while in Australasia the number is not less than seven, and the violent contrast between the rich and the poor which mars the civilization of the old world is not observable in these young states. It is, unfortunately, only too plain that a certain amount of poverty does exist in the colonies, but there is a complete absence of an hereditary pauper class, and no one is born into the hopeless conditions which characterize the lives of so many millions in Europe, and from which there is absolutely no possibility of escape. No poor-rate is levied in Australasia, the assistance granted by the State being usually rendered to able-bodied men who find themselves out of employment in times of depression, and taking the form of payment, in money or in rations, for work done by them.

The chief efforts of the authorities, as regards charity, are directed towards the rescue of the young from criminal companionship and education to crime, the support of the aged and infirm, the care of the imbecile or insane, and the subsidising of private institutions for the care of the sick and injured and the amelioration of want. Even where the State grants aid for philanthropic purposes the management of the institutions supervising the expenditure is in private hands, and in addition to State-aided institutions there are numerous charities wholly maintained by private subscriptions, whose efforts for the relief of those whom penury, sickness, or misfortune has afflicted are beyond all praise.

The rescue of the young from crime is attempted in two ways—first, by means of Orphanages and Industrial Schools, where children who have been abandoned by their natural guardians, or who are likely, from the poverty or incapacity of their parents, to be so neglected as to render them liable to lapse into crime, are taken care of, educated, and afterwards apprenticed to some useful calling; and second, by committing to Reformatories children who have already committed crime, or whose parents or guardians find themselves unable to control them, but the accommodation in the latter class is very limited, and might well be extended.

Although a century has elapsed since settlement commenced in Australasia, its resources are by no means developed, and very many men are at work far away from the home comforts of everyday life, and from home attendance in case of sickness or injury. Owing to the peculiar nature of the occupations in which a great part of the adult male population is employed, accidents are very common, the annual death-rate being about 8 per 10,000 living, and form the majority of the cases treated, especially in the districts outside the metropolitan area. Hospitals are therefore absolutely essential under the conditions of life in the rural districts of the colonies, and they are accordingly found in every important country town. Below will be found the number of hospitals in each colony, with the number of indoor patients treated during the year mentioned, and the total expenditure for the same year. Unfortunately, the South Australian and Western

[illegible] as will be seen by the note app[illegible]

[illegible]	Year	Hospitals.	Indoor patients treated.	Expenditure.
		No.	No.	£
[illegible]	1899	110	29,770	158,046
[illegible]	[illegible]	51	25,539	168,276
[illegible]	[illegible]	57	19,990	100,505
[illegible]	1899	8	*3,493	*18,201
[illegible]	[illegible]	23	†2,655	†15,667
[illegible]	[illegible]	11	3,220	19,993
[illegible]	—	260	84,667	480,688
[illegible]	1898	42	11,558	105,752
[illegible]	—	302	96,225	586,440

[illegible] Hospital only. † Perth and Fremantle Hospitals.

[illegible] institutions for the care of the insane, w[illegible] The treatment meted out to the inm[illegible] the greatest humanity, and the hospitals are fi[illegible] and appliances which modern science po[illegible] or remove the affliction from wh[illegible] The following table shows the num[illegible] in the asylums of New So[illegible] during 1899, and of the o[illegible] expenditure on hospitals for the in[illegible] per inmate under tr[illegible] treated farther on in this chapter.

[illegible]	[illegible]	Total Expenditure.	Average Expenditure per Inmate for treatment.
	No.	£	£ s. d.
[illegible]	[illegible]	119,433	23 14 7
[illegible]	[illegible]	112,746	20 18 11
[illegible]	[illegible]	42,[illegible]	23 11 0
[illegible]	[illegible]	22,410	19 13 2
[illegible]	[illegible]	8,112	28 19 5
[illegible]	[illegible]	12,[illegible]63	27 4 3
[illegible]	[illegible]	317,176	22 10 6
[illegible]	[illegible]	53,764	17 19 8
[illegible]	[illegible]	370,940	21 14 7

The amounts expended on Destitute Asylums and Benevolent Societies not be separated from other items of expenditure in some of the nies. As far as they can be ascertained they are given in the owing table, together with the number of adult inmates of the ous asylums at the end of the year mentioned :—

State.	Year.	Inmates.	Expenditure.
		No.	£
New South Wales	1899	5,082	150,273
Victoria	1898-9	3,550	67,943
Queensland	1898	1,212	34,439
South Australia	1898	643	5,710
Western Australia	1898	533	8,407
Tasmania	1898	594	7,788
Commonwealth	.. .. . .	11,614	274,560
New Zealand	1898	1,180	33,755
Australasia	.. .. . .	12,794	308,315

addition to the above, a liberal amount of out door relief is given the Australasian colonies, and destitute children are taken care either by being supported in the Government institutions or by g boarded out to persons deemed able to take care of them properly. far as can be judged from the imperfect returns, adding together amount received from the Government and the amount of private criptions, the expenditure in the whole of the Australasian colonies connection with all forms of relief and in aid of hospitals and other ritable institutions is certainly not less than £1,250,000 per annum. sum, though not excessive in proportion to the population, may appear large in view of the general wealth of the colonies, which ald preclude the necessity of so many seeking assistance ; and there the risk that the charitable institutions may encourage the growth the pauper element, for while free quarters and free food are so sible those who are disinclined to work are tempted to live at the r expense. It should be stated, however, that of the total number rsons who seek hospital relief, less than one half are natives of the ies, the remainder being mostly natives of the United Kingdom, h a few who were born in a European country or in China. This, ever, cannot be taken as evidence of the superiority of the Australian a The inmates of the institutions referred to are in almost all aged persons, and probably not more than half the number of persons are Australian born.

Crime.

In all the colonies proceedings against a person accused of an offence may be initiated either by the arrest of the culprit or by summoning him to appear before a magistrate. Serious offences, of course, are rarely dealt with by process of summons; but, on the other hand it is not uncommon for a person to be apprehended on a very trivial charge, and this circumstance should not be forgotten in dealing with [illegible] by the police, which are unusually numerous in some of the colonies. Unfortunately, it is not easy to say how far the police of one colony are disposed to treat offenders with such consideration as to proceed against them by summons, and how far those of another colony are content to adopt similar action; for in most of the provinces the records do not draw a distinction between the two classes of cases, and in the table given on page 366, showing the number of persons charged before magistrates in each colony during the year 1898, offenders who were summoned to appear are included with those arrested, except in the case of Victoria, whose criminal statistics seem to deal only with arrests. It is likewise difficult to make a true comparison between the various [illegible] the matter of the prevalence of crime, for there are a number of circumstances which must considerably affect the criminal returns and modify their meaning. The first of these, of course, is the question of the strength of the police force and its ability to cope with [illegible] which must be decided chiefly by the proportion of undetected crime which takes place in the colonies. The policy adopted by the chief of police in regard to trivial breaches of the public peace and other minor offences against good order must also be taken into consideration, and then there are considerable differences between the criminal codes of the colonies, and in the number of local enactments, breaches of which form a large proportion of the minor offences taken before the Courts. Also, when the returns of the lower Courts are [illegible] the convictions in superior Courts taken up, the comparison is affected by the jurisdiction of the magistrates who committed the prisoners. In New South Wales, for example, the jurisdiction of the lower Courts is limited to imprisonment for six months, except [illegible] under one or two Acts of Parliament, such as the Offence Instruction Act, prosecutions under which are very frequent. Victoria a large number of persons are every year sentenced by magistrates [illegible] for terms ranging from six months [illegible] It is apparent, therefore, that in any comparison drawn [illegible] in the superior Courts of New South Wales and of Victoria, the former colony must appear to [illegible]

[illegible] into the differences between the law of New South Wales and of Victoria in respect to the jurisdiction of magistrates [illegible] important results. Under the Victorian Crimes Act [illegible] Victoria No. 1,079, it is provided by section 67 that Justice

may try persons under sixteen years of age for the offence
larceny or for any offence punishable as simple larceny no ma
the value of the property in question may be, and persons ov
years of age where the property said to have been stolen
greater value than £2; and it is further provided by the sam
that upon the hearing of such a charge the Justices shall be
that there are circumstances in the case which render it inex
inflict any punishment, they shall have power to dismiss t
without proceeding to a conviction. This provision, it is r
ably, is likely to materially reduce the number of convictions f
in Victoria. In New South Wales, on the other hand, the
law gives Justices any such power. In every case where the
proved they must convict the accused person, although in t
offenders under the age of sixteen years they may discharg
the first person on his making restitution, or in other cases deal
with under the First Offenders Act and suspend the sentence;
such cases the conviction is placed on record and is accounted
in the criminal statistics of the colony. Section 69 of the same Vict
gives Justices power to deal with any case of simple larceny, or
as a clerk or servant, or of stealing from the person, when th
person is guilty, the punishment being imprisonment for any
not exceeding twelve months; while in New South Wales the law
gives Justices the power to deal with such cases when the proper
said to have been stolen exceeds the value of £20. This section m
has tended materially to reduce the number of cases committe
in Victoria for the offences mentioned, although in all such
cases Justices may commit the accused person if they think fit
Furthermore, it is provided by section 370 of the Crimes Ac
that suspected persons who have been convicted of capital or
other felony elsewhere and are found in Victoria may be arr
sentenced to imprisonment for three years in the case of a mal
and one year in the case of a female. Such a protective provision
is in some of the other provinces as well as in Victoria, and i
has made New South Wales has made that colony the chosen
resort of the criminals of the other colonies, for there they
can form plots in peace and enjoy immunity from arrest until
they discover some proof of their complicity in fresh crime or can ch
them with being in possession of property which may reasonably be
suspected having been stolen. It is not, however, only in respect
of these matters that the law of Victoria differs from that of New Sou
Wales. Under the Victorian Police Offences Act of 1890 drunkenne
is a crime, and must be allied with disorderly conduct before t
can be punished. These statements all go to show in what
respects the criminal statistics of the colonies must differ f
rom each other, and how great care must be taken in making comparisc
between them. During the year 1893, as far as can be gathered, 150,49
persons were charged before magistrates in Australasia, 113,272 being

[illegible] and 33,570 discharged, while 3,654 were committed. [illegible] of each of the seven colonies will be found below. It sh[illegible] be explained that in the case of New Zealand and Western Aust[illegible] each charge is counted as a separate person—a proceeding which [illegible] while in Victoria the returns [illegible] no record being published of the summ[illegible] —

[illegible]	[illegible]	Summarily dealt with.		Committed.
		Discharged.	Convicted.	
[illegible]	[illegible]	9,271	44,876	1,295
[illegible]	[illegible]	8,933	16,[illegible]	667
[illegible]	[illegible]	3,357	16,633	447
[illegible]	[illegible]	1,230	5,[illegible]12	216
[illegible]	1[illegible]	4,913	9,659	320
[illegible]	[illegible]	915	3,363	58
[illegible]	128,262	28,619	96,630	3,013
[illegible]	22,234	4,951	16,642	641
[illegible]	150,496	33,570	113,272	3,654

[illegible] whole of Australasia, rather more than thirty [illegible] every thousand were charged before magistrates du[illegible] a figure which compares favourably with the rate [illegible] Only three colonies—Western Australia, Queensl[illegible] New South Wales—exceed the average amount of disorder [illegible] by the police court returns. The very large pr[illegible] to the population of the first-named colony an[illegible] conditions, place it, of course, in quite an excepti[illegible] while in Queensland and New South Wales there are gr[illegible] populations, from the ranks of which a large percentag[illegible] drawn, than in the other colonies which have better rec[illegible] with the least disorder and crime is South Australia, w[illegible] answering to charges in the lower Courts only form 18[illegible] of the population. Next come Victoria with 22·88 per thous[illegible] with 24·86, and New Zealand, with 30·20; while, as b[illegible] Western Australia, Queensland, and New South Wales have [illegible] proportions, namely, 90·30, 43·86, and 41·92 per thou[illegible] In the case of Western Australia, the returns leave [illegible] that there has been a large influx of criminals from the ea[illegible] because the rate is more than twice that of Queensland, [illegible] colony. The rate is, however, unduly increased by inclu[illegible] charges brought against the aborigines, and also from the [illegible] that, as stated before, each offence is counted as a separate person;

sence of any exact statistical information, there is no option e the figures presented. In New South Wales and Victoria, ery ninety persons charged are accused of 100 offences, and the same ratio to hold in Western Australia, it is estimated ese two mentioned factors were excluded, the rate in Western would be a little under 78 per 1,000. The New Zealand rate fected by the last-mentioned circumstance. The following ws the proportion of persons charged before magistrates in ny during the year; also the percentages of the persons d, convicted, and committed of the whole number charged:—

ate.	Persons charged per 1,000 of population	Percentages of total persons charged.			
		Discharged.	Convicted.	Summarily dealt with.	Committed.
Wales ..	41·92	16·72	80·94	97·66	2·34
.. .	22·88	33·60	63·89	97·49	2·51
.. ..	43·86	16·42	81·39	97·81	2·19
ralia	18·06	18·76	77·95	96·71	3·29
ustralia	90·30	32·97	64·82	97·79	2·21
	24·86	21·10	77·56	98·66	1·34
nwealth	35·11	22·31	75·34	97·65	2·35
d	30·20	22·27	74·85	97·12	2·88
lasia	34·29	22·30	75·27	97·57	2·43

be seen from the above table that out of every hundred persons before magistrates in Australasia in 1898, 97·57 were summ alt with, 22·30 being discharged and 75·27 convicted, while were committed to higher courts. The colony with the highest e of cases summarily disposed of and the smallest proportion tals was Tasmania; while Victoria, although the magistrates a much wider jurisdiction than in New South Wales and some er colonies, had the lowest proportion of cases summarily dealt h the exception of South Australia. This was without doubt due t that, as already pointed out, summons cases, which usually or offences, are not included in the criminal statistics of the As a matter of fact, the Victorian returns should show a very ntage of cases summarily disposed of; for an inspection of ics discloses the fact that, owing to this wider jurisdiction, tracy of the colony, in 1898, sentenced 14 persons to two risonment, 234 to periods between one year and two years, o terms of six months and under one year. Many of these ld they been tried in New South Wales, would have been in higher courts. Another important point to be noted is oria has the largest proportion of discharges, and if the

theory be dismissed as untenable that the police in that colo[illegible] more prone to charge persons on insufficient grounds than [illegible] other colonies, it must be concluded that the magistrates of [illegible] deal more leniently with accused persons than is the case else[illegible] indeed, it has already been shown that the Crimes Act of 1890 p[illegible] for the discharge without conviction of persons found guilty of [illegible] offences. The lowest proportion of discharges is to be found in [illegible] land and New South Wales, which also have the highest percen[illegible] summary convictions; and the figures testify to the stringenc[illegible] which the criminal laws are administered in those colonies.

Of the 150,496 persons brought before magistrates during t[illegible] 1898, only 27,885 were charged with offences which can fa[illegible] classed as criminal, the overwhelming majority being accu[illegible] drunkenness and other offences against good order, of luna[illegible] vagrancy, and of breaches of Acts of Parliament, which have a te[illegible] to [illegible] to a great extent. For present purposes the accused [illegible] [illegible] as in the table given below, offences against the per[illegible] against property being regarded as serious crime. Of course, a[illegible] [illegible] are to be found a few charged with grav[illegible] [illegible] against these may be put trifling assaults, wh[illegible] [illegible] against the person.

[illegible]	All Offenders.	Serious Offenders.		
		Against the Person	Against Property	Total.
[illegible]	55,442	4,320	6,041	10,361
[illegible]	[illegible]	1,157	2,774	3,931
[illegible]	[illegible]	2,098	2,133	4,231
[illegible]	[illegible]	391	696	1,087
[illegible]	[illegible]	1,071	1,955	3,026
[illegible]	[illegible]	349	711	1,060
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	14,310	23,696
[illegible]	[illegible]	1,395	2,794	4,189
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	17,104	27,885

[illegible] the nature of the offences explains [illegible] [illegible] position of New South [illegible] for of the 55,442 accused [illegible] [illegible] offenders numbered 45,081, or [illegible] [illegible] the large number of trivial cases in New [illegible] [illegible] the greater strictness of police a[illegible] [illegible] shows 85.2 per cent. of minor of[illegible] [illegible] in the tabulation of the ret[illegible] [illegible] so favourable as it appears to be on the [illegible]

h Wales, and, it is to be presumed, in most of the other
son accused of two or more offences is entered as charged
serious in the eyes of the law; while in Victoria he is
rged with the first offence committed, any others, however
g out of his capture, being left out of consideration. For
person is arrested for drunkenness, and he assaults his
on the way to the station, he is entered in the returns of
Wales, as they are here presented, as charged with an
the person, and thereby helps to swell the amount of
but in Victoria he is entered as charged with drunkenness
conduct, and the charge of assault, on which he may be
sentenced to a term of imprisonment, is not disclosed,
set therefore be taken into account in comparing the
the various classes of offenders per thousand of population,
ended :—

	Per thousand of population.				
	All Offenders.	Serious Offenders.			Minor Offenders.
		Against the Person	Against Property	Total.	
	41·92	3·26	4·57	7·83	34·09
	22·88	0·99	2·39	3·38	19·50
	43·86	4·50	4·58	9·08	34·78
	18·06	1·08	1·91	2·99	15·07
	90·30	6·49	11·85	18·34	71·96
	24·86	2·00	4·08	6·08	18·78
	35·11	2·57	3·91	6·48	28·63
	30·20	1·80	3·79	5·69	24·51
	34·29	2·45	3·90	6·35	27·94

en that, relatively to population, the colony with the largest
rious offenders was Western Australia, which had a pro-
8·34 per thousand. Queensland followed with a pro-
·08, while New South Wales and Tasmania occupied
th positions with 7·83 and 6·08 per thousand respectively.
lew Zealand was 5·69 per thousand, while that of Victoria
at 3·38, and South Australia closes the list with 2·99.
nteresting to compare the crime of the principal colonies
f the number of males of such ages as contribute to the
nders, but this cannot accurately be done at the present
quence of the changes which have taken place in the age
f the people since the last census. In explanation of the
estern Australia, it is well known to the police of Victoria

y according to the diverse nature of the duties performed by the ce. The quantity of intoxicants consumed per head is perhaps a r index of the habits of communities living under like conditions; comparisons so based should not be pushed to extremes, for, as has en been pointed out, the larger part of the alcohol which enters into sumption is that consumed by the population who are not drunkards. e average quantity of intoxicants used in each colony during 1898 is en below, wines and beer being reduced to their equivalent of proof rit. The consumption of the various kinds of intoxicants will be nd in the chapter on "Food Supply and Cost of Living":—

State.	Proof Gallons of Alcohol per head of population.
New South Wales	2·22
Victoria	3·00
Queensland	2·65
South Australia	2·20
Western Australia	4·96
Tasmania	1·44
New Zealand	1·80
Australasia	2·47

These figures show the importance which must be attached to police inistration when studying the question of drunkenness.
The strength of the police force in each of the colonies at the end of 8 is given below:—

State.	Police.			Inhabitants to each Police Officer.	Area to each Constable in Country Districts.
	Metropolitan.	Country.	Total.		
	No.	No.	No.	No.	Sq. miles.
South Wales	792	1,165	1,957	682	267
	665	750	1,415	820	117
land	163	641	804	587	1,043
Australia	170	182	352	1,037	4,964*
rn Australia	101	320	421	399	2,957
nia	43	231	274	647	113
Commonwealth	1,934	3,289	5,223	704	904
Zealand	58	492	550	1,352	212
Australasia	1,992	3,781	5,773	706	814

* Including Northern Territory.

omparison of the cost of the police forces of the various colonies found below. The greater number of mounted troopers in those s where very large and thinly-populated districts have to be

[illegible] make the average cost somewhat higher than [illegible] —

State.	Total Cost of Police Force.	Average Cost per Constable.			Average Cost per Inhabitant.	
	£	£	s.	d.	s.	d.
New South Wales	332,824	170	1	4	5	0
[illegible]	260,880	184	7	4	4	6
[illegible]	175,095	217	15	7	7	6
[illegible]	73,568	209	0	0	4	1
[illegible]	107,515	255	7	7	13	0
[illegible]	35,511	129	12	0	4	1
Commonwealth	985,393	188	13	3	5	5
New Zealand	108,627	197	10	1	2	11
Australasia	1,094,020	189	10	2	5	0

The record of cases heard before a Court of Magistrates cannot [illegible] a trustworthy indication of the social prog[illegible] [illegible] as has been pointed out, it includes many ki[illegible] [illegible] cannot hardly be classed as criminal, and the number [illegible] increase with the increase of local enactme[illegible] [illegible] in connection with the convictions [illegible] Superior Courts may be regarded as much more conclu[illegible] [illegible] of the progress of society or the reverse. In some resp[illegible] [illegible] shown, in the less p[illegible] [illegible] intermediary between the Magistr[illegible] [illegible] offences which in New So[illegible] [illegible] of the other prov[illegible] [illegible] in Victoria, where their [illegible] wider jurisdic[illegible] [illegible] showing the decr[illegible] [illegible] proportion of commi[illegible] [illegible] taken, and this [illegible] [illegible] the thirty-seven [illegible] [illegible] thousand of popula[illegible] [illegible] from 1·3 to 0·5 —

Year.	Per Cent of Population.	
	[illegible]	Convictions in Superior Courts.
[illegible]	2·2	1·3
[illegible]	1·4	0·8
[illegible]	1·2	0·7
[illegible]	1·1	0·6
[illegible]	0·8	0·5

oting these facts and comparing the results with those obtained in Britain during the same period, it must not be forgotten that of the provinces of Australasia have been compelled gradually orm a portion of their original population, and that in the case lonies such as Victoria and Queensland, not originally peopled in legree by convicts, the attractions of the gold-fields have drawn their borders a population by no means free from criminal ts and antecedents. Viewed in this light, the steady progress cannot but be regarded as exceedingly satisfactory, and the ation may not unreasonably be entertained that the same im- ent will be continued until the ratio of crime to population ompare favourably with that of any part of the world.

low will be found the number of convictions in the Superior Courts h colony, at decennial periods from 1861 to 1891, as well as for ar 1898 :—

State.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1898.
uth Wales	437	628	1,066	964	758
.. ..	846	511	332	729	402
land	24	91	92	232	248
Australia	62	91	213	90	157
n Australia	35	65	61	44	154
ia	127	74	51	63	33
mmonwealth...	1,531	1,460	1,815	2,122	1,752
aland	100	162	270	276	351
Australasia	1,631	1,622	2,085	2,398	2,103

following table gives a classification of the offences for which the persons were convicted during 1898 ; also the rate of convictions committals per 1,000 of population. It will be seen that the convictions in the Superior Courts of Victoria is 0·35 per nd ; but if the persons who received sentences of over six months' ment at the hands of magistrates were taken into account, the ion would be as high as that of New South Wales. The colony mania has an even smaller proportion of convictions in Superior

[illegible] and the rate for South Australia is [illegible] as already pointed out, [illegible] —

State	Convictions in Superior Courts.				
	Classification of Offences.			All Convictions.	Per 1,000 of Population.
	Against the Person.	Against Property.	Other.		
New South Wales	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	758	0·57
Victoria	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	402	0·35
Queensland	[illegible]	[illegible]	21	248	0·53
South Australia	[illegible]	[illegible]	12	157	0·43
Western Australia	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	154	0·93
Tasmania	[illegible]	[illegible]	5	33	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1,752	0·48
New Zealand	[illegible]	[illegible]	14	351	0·48
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	202	2,103	0·48

[illegible] New South Wales would appear to [illegible] comparison of crime statistics if there [illegible] the entrance of criminals, such [illegible] the other provinces. In the absence [illegible] the mother colony has become a happy [illegible] of Australasia. That there is [illegible] the fact that whereas in New South [illegible] only formed 34 per cent. of the total [illegible] Victoria 46 per cent. of arrested persons [illegible] the census of 1891 the element of the popu[illegible] larger in the former than in the latter colony [illegible] death is very seldom resorted to except in [illegible] such was not the case. Thus the nu[illegible] from 151 during the decade 184[illegible] ten years 1881–90. In South Australia the ex[illegible] most sparingly inflicted, there having been [illegible] the twenty-eight years which closed with 1898 [illegible] shows the number of executions in each province d[illegible] the 50 years ended 1890, also those which took pl[illegible] Queensland was incorporated with New S[illegible] the end of 1859, though Victoria became a separate c[illegible]

It will be noticed that the returns are defective so far as Western Australia is concerned.—

State	1841-50.	1851-60.	1861-70.	1871-80.	1881-90.	1891-95.	1896-98.
New South Wales	68	38	34	27	23	15	5
Victoria			14	18	15	16	.
Queensland		47	41	19	13	12	3
South Australia ...	...	7	12	6	2	2	1
Western Australia	..	.. ..	... ..	.. ...	.....	6	2
Tasmania ...	83	32	15	3	5	1	..
New Zealand	...	...	..	12	8	1	4
Total ..	151	124	116	85	66	53	15

The returns relating to the prisons of the colonies are in some cases incomplete. The prisoners in confinement at any specified time are divided into those who have been tried and sentenced, those who are awaiting their trial, and debtors. The returns of five of the colonies admit of this distinction being made. The number and classification of prisoners in confinement on the 31st December, 1898, were as follow :—

State	Tried and Sentenced	Awaiting Trial	Debtors.	Total
New South Wales	1,934	147	1	2,082
Victoria	1,136	75	.. .. ..	1,211
Queensland	506	39	.. ..	545
South Australia .	287*	8	.. ..	295
Western Australia .	560	6	2	568
New Zealand .	533	62	..	595
Total	4,956	337	3	5,296

* Including debtors.

The returns of Tasmania do not enable the distinction made in the above table to be drawn, but there were 96 prisoners in Tasmanian gaols at the end of 1898; so that the total number of persons in confinement in the gaols of Australasia, at the close of 1898, may be stated at 5,392, equal to 1·24 in every thousand of the population.

Suicides.

The total number of persons who committed suicide in Australasia during 1898 was 527—433 males and 94 females—corresponding to a rate of 1·20 per 10,000 living, and the table below shows the number of deaths and the rates in each colony, in five-year periods since 1870.

It is believed that the actual number of suicides is even larger t[illegible] shown in the tables, especially during recent years: for there is a gr[illegible] disposition on the part of coroners' juries to attribute to accident w[illegible] really the result of an impulse of self-destruction.

Total number of deaths.

State	1871-7[illegible]	1876-8[illegible]	1881-8[illegible]	1886-90	1891-95
New South Wales	212	297	368	578	713
[illegible]	446	505	463	638	630
Queensland	72	141	179	292	349
[illegible]	79	93	146	134	156
Western Australia	3*	7	23	22	73
Tasmania	[illegible]	37	27	43	63
New Zealand	89*	195	261	267	339
Australasia	.	[illegible]275	1,467	1,974	2,323

Death rate per 10,000 living.

State	1871-7[illegible]	1876-8[illegible]	1881-8[illegible]	1886-90	1891-95
New South Wales	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1·12	1·19
[illegible]	1·[illegible]	1·23	1·02	1·21	1·08
[illegible]	1·[illegible]	1·[illegible]	1·33	1·62	1·68
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	93
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1·46	1·[illegible]	2·19
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	63	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	91	[illegible]	[illegible]	1·03
Australasia		1·02	[illegible]	1·12	1·16

* [illegible]

[illegible] agree with that of other coun[illegible] [illegible] increasing. Fro[illegible] [illegible] surely incre[illegible] [illegible] rate, while in [illegible] England, where [illegible] named colon[illegible] [illegible] Queensland coming first [illegible] largest propor[illegible] [illegible] the relatively [illegible] or four tim[illegible]

[illegible] suicide in all the col[illegible] [illegible] more common now [illegible] and poisoning and dro[illegible]

Illegitimacy.

mate births are rather numerous in the colonies, the total
the whole of Australasia during 1899 being 6,878, equal to
ent. of the total births. The following table shows the num-
gitimate births which have occurred in each colony in quin-
periods since 1870, and the proportion per cent. of total

Total Number of Illegitimate Births.

Rate.	1871–75	1876–80	1881–85	1886–90	1891–95	1896–99
Wales . . .	4,369	5,401	6,949	9,394	11,875	10,017
....	4,222	5,046	6,491	8,425	9,858	6,806
....	846	1,447	1,990	3,117	3,516	3,265
ralia	...	...	1,222	1,331	1,577	1,378
ustralia	..	...	.	..	402‡	870
....			762†	911	1,136	1,058
nd	523*	2,027	2,831	3,011	3,443	3,290
ia	..	..	20,245	26,189	31,807	26,084

Proportion per cent of Total Births.

Wales	4·09	4·22	4·36	4·90	6·01	6·84
....	3·10	4·27	4·63	4·89	5·45	5·46
....	2·89	3·85	4·06	4·44	4·83	5·81
ralia	...	...	2·16	2·50	2·98	3·04
ustralia	...	.	.		4·75‡	5·13
....	.	...	4·35†	3·84	4·58	5·71
nd.	1·38*	2·30	2·93	3·20	3·77	4·38
ia	..	. .	3·90	4·35	5·06	5·61

* Three years—1873–75. † Four years—1882–85. ‡ Four years—1892–95.

n that New South Wales has always been in the unenviable
exhibiting the highest proportion of illegitimate births,
p to 1890 it was closely followed by Victoria. Since 1890,
the rate in New South Wales has increased very rapidly, as
Queensland, which now stands second. In all the colonies
y is on the increase; and whereas less than twenty years ago
since had a lower rate than prevailed in England, they all,
xception of South Australia, have now a higher rate.

The following table shows the proportion of illegitimate birth United Kingdom, and in the chief countries of Europe, based experience of the latest five years available, the figures refer most cases, to the period 1894-8. In a majority of the Eu countries illegitimacy appears to be on the increase.

Country	Illegitimate Births per cent.	Country.	Illegitimate Births per cent.
England and Wales	4·21	Hungary	8·72
Scotland	7·10	France	5·84
Ireland	2·68	Belgium	7·64
Germany	9·24	Netherlands	2·81
Prussia	7·83	Sweden	10·63
Bavaria	14·00	Norway	7·26
Saxony	12·81	Italy	6·82
Austria	14·64		

Divorce.

The question of divorce is one of much interest to Aust as some of the colonies, especially New South Wales and Victori offer great facilities for the dissolution of the marriage bond general opinion was that such facilities were calculated to in divorce to an extent that would prove hurtful to public morals. far as the experience of New South Wales was concerned, for th few years after the passing of the Act multiplying the grounds on divorce could be granted, the fear did not seem to be altogether g less; for in 1893 the number of decrees *nisi* granted rose to 305 102 in 1892, and in 1898 was still as high as 244. When, howe is remembered that advantage would be taken of the change in l dissolve marriages the bonds of which would have been broke before under other circumstances, it is evident that there wa ground for the fear that this somewhat alarming increase would tinue, and it was, therefore, not surprising to find a decline in 189 Victoria, where a very similar law came into operation in 1890, th ber of divorces increased considerably, immediately after the pas the Act, although not to the alarming extent experienced in New Wales.

In New South Wales, under the Matrimonial Causes Act of 187 chief grounds on which divorce was granted were adultery after ma on the part of the wife, and adultery with cruelty on the part husband. A measure, however, was passed through both Houses Legislature in 1892, and came into force in August of that year, in the main assimilated the law to that of Victoria. Under this A

g Act passed in 1893 petitions for divorce can be granted for g causes, in addition to those already mentioned:—*Husband* esertion for not less than three years; habitual drunkenness ar period; refusing to obey an order for restitution of ghts; being imprisoned under sentence for three years ; attempt to murder or inflict grievous bodily harm, or ault on the husband within a year preceding the date of the petition. *Wife v. Husband.* Adultery, provided that at the institution of the suit the husband is domiciled in Wales; desertion for not less than three years; habitual for a similar period; refusing to obey an order for of conjugal rights; being imprisoned for three years or having within five years undergone various sentences in all to not less than three years; attempt to murder or intent to inflict grievous bodily harm, or repeated assault year previously. Relief can only be sought on these grounds petitioner have been domiciled in the colony for three years at the time of instituting the suit, and not have resorted y for the purpose of having the marriage dissolved. In South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania, and New orces are granted principally for adultery on the part of the dultery coupled with desertion for over two years on the part and.

bjoined table will be found the actual number of divorces separations granted during each of the years 1893-98. It that, taking the colonies as a whole, divorce has decreased although there was an increase in 1897:—

	1893.		1894.		1895.		1896.		1897.		1898.	
	Divorces.	Judicial Separation.	Divorces.	Judicial Separation.	Divorces.	Judicial Separation.	Divorces.	Judicial Separation.	Divorces.	Judicial Separation.	Divorces.	Judicial Separation.
..	308	9	313	14	301	11	234	8	240	13	247	17
..	85	1	81	2	85		100	2	117		87	
	5	2	6		4		3	2	10	1	7	
..	5	1	5	1	5		6	1	3		7	1
..	1		1		2		1		4		3	
..	6		5		4	1	3		5		4	
..	25	1	20	4	18	5	36	2	33	1	32	2
..	436	20	431	21	419	17	389	15	418	15	387	20
	456		452		436		404		433		407	
rations per 10,000	184·3		182·8		169·9		144·2		150·6		137·7	

ing table shows the number of decrees of dissolution of judicial separation granted in each colony, in quinquennial

[illegible] far as it is possible to procure the infor[illegible] [illegible] New South Wales in 1873, and the fig[illegible] [illegible] only cover the two years 1874 and 1875

[illegible]	1871-75.		1876-80		1881-85.		1886-90.		1891-95.	
	Divorces	Judicial Separation	Divorces	Judicial Separation	Divorces	Judicial Separation	Divorces	Judicial Separation	Divorces	Judicial Separation
[illegible]	21		[illegible]		116	6	212	12	1087	55
[illegible]	33	6	41	2	74	5	124	9	441	10
[illegible]	4	1	14		5	2	[illegible]	3	26	3
[illegible]	[illegible]	3	[illegible]	2	31	10	23	2	30	2
[illegible]			1	1	5		8		9	
[illegible]	9		9		9		15	2	21	2
[illegible]	*	*	*	*	*	*	110	5	101	14
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	187	5	[illegible]	[illegible]	518	33	1715	86

* [illegible]

[illegible] table and comparin[illegible] [illegible] same perio[illegible] [illegible] marriages, [illegible] [illegible] New South W[illegible] [illegible] except the United [illegible]

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1886-90	1891-95
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	54.8	272.3
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	51.1	119.6
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	19.0	21.4
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	24.3	29.0
[illegible]		[illegible]	[illegible]	55.5	38.6
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	35.4	50.8
[illegible]	*	*	*	[illegible]	56.9

* [illegible] 1874 and 1875 only

[illegible] which sets forth the latest [illegible] [illegible] statistics are obtainable [illegible] of ten years wherever pos[illegible] [illegible] proportion of marriages dissol[illegible] [illegible] the British Empire, but that [illegible] [illegible] exceeded by a number of [illegible] [illegible] where divorce laws are in force, no [illegible]

[illegible] are available for Denmark, Hungary, Russia, and Spain. In [illegible] and Portugal divorce is not recognised by law:

Country.	Divorces per 10,000 Marriages.	Country.	Divorces per 10,000 Marriages.
Canadian Dominion ..	4	Cape Colony	98
United Kingdom .. .	11	Netherlands .. .	103
Norway ..	16	Germany . .	165
Austria Proper .	43	France	180
Greece	50	Roumania	204
Belgium . ..	81	Switzerland	432
Sweden	87	United States ..	612

In the United States of America no general system of registration of [illegible] deaths, and marriages is in force. For the purpose of com[illegible], the marriage-rate of that country has been assumed to be 6·50 [illegible],000 of mean population, and on that basis the 20,660 divorces [illegible] annually during ten years would give an average of not less [illegible] 612 per 10,000 marriages.

[illegible] the Dominion of Canada divorce was, under the Union Act, [illegible] to the Federal Parliament; but those provinces which had [illegible] divorce courts before the accomplishment of federation were [illegible] to retain the jurisdiction which they already exercised. In [illegible] provinces no divorce courts have been established since [illegible] of the Dominion, and divorce can only be obtained by [illegible], the matter being dealt with in each case as an ordinary [illegible] Act of Parliament, with this difference, however, that the [illegible] requires the production of such evidence in support of the [illegible] for relief as would be deemed sufficient in a court of law.

Insanity.

[illegible] number of insane persons in Australasia, under official cognizance [illegible] various Government hospitals for the treatment of the insane, [illegible] end of 1898 was 14,285, equal to 3·23 per 1,000 of the popu[illegible], or corresponding to one insane person in every 309. This rate is [illegible] equal to that prevailing in England, where one person in every [illegible] officially known to be insane.

[illegible] inspection of the table given below of the insane persons, both [illegible] female, in each colony on 31st December, 1898, and the rate [illegible] inhabitants of each sex, will disclose the fact that the rate of [illegible] varies greatly in the different provinces, and that the rate for [illegible] is everywhere higher than that for females, except in Western Australia, where 1·26 per 1,000 males, and 1·75 per 1,000 females are

insane, a result which appears to show that the female popul
the western colony is underestimated :-

	Number of Insane			Per 1,000 of Popul	
	Males.	Females.	Total Persons.	Males.	Females.
	2,479	1,594	4,073	3·45	2·59
	2,300	2,094	4,394	3·06	3·01
	1,018	550	1,568	3·89	2·62
	538	419	957	2·82	2·40
	141	98	239	1·26	1·75
	313	261	574	3·28	3·19
	6,789	5,016	11,805	3·47	2·92
	1,472	1,008	2,480	3·75	2·87
	8,261	6,024	14,285	3·52	2·91

has the highest general rate, with 3·79 per 1,000
next with 3·34, closely followed by Queensland
with 3·24, although Tasmania has the
New South Wales, with 3·05, is below the
while South Australia, with 2·62, is well
with 1·42, is the lowest of all.

remarkable difference between the Austra
Britain, namely, that in England the
is found amongst women, whereas
amongst men.

per 1,000 males in 1897 was 3·00, and pe
difference is gradually being reduced
greatest disproportion was in Queensland, wh
were respectively 3·89 and 2·62 per 1,000
the sexes is found in those colonies
greater proportion what may be
In Tasmania the excess of the male o
and in Victoria 0·35.

doubt that insanity is slowly but sur
as it is in the United Kingdom and othe
the rate has risen from 2·92 per 1,000 of popu
1897, and in Scotland a similar rise has take
in 1884 to 3·36 in 1897. The greater part
rightly attributed to an improvement
of the Commissioners in Lunacy, by which a
knowledge of the number of cases existent in the count
the steady growth of the rate in recent years
information has been brought to a high pitch of per

[illegible] points to the fact that the advance of civilization, with the [illegible]sing strain to which the struggle for existence is subjecting body [illegible]mind, has one of its results in the growth of mental disease In all [illegible]Colonies of Australasia, with the sole exception of Tasmania, there [illegible] the same state of affairs as the insanity returns of Great Britain [illegible]ow, although the conditions of life press much more lightly on the [illegible]idual here

[illegible] experience of the various colonies is fairly represented in the [illegible]wing table which shows the average number of insane in each [illegible]y per 1,000 of population, arranged in three five-years periods:—

State.	1884-88. Rate per 1,000 of Population.	1889-93. Rate per 1,000 of Population.	1894-98. Rate per 1,000 of Population.
New South Wales . .	2 77	2 76	2·97
[illegible] . . .	3 38	3 36	3 63
[illegible]land	2 42	2 89	3 22
[illegible] Australia	2 39	2 52	2 60
Western Australia . .	3 58	2 49	1 45
[illegible]	2 61	2 40	2 22
Commonwealth . .	2 91	2·94	3 09
New Zealand . . .	2·72	2·93	3 25
Australasia	2 87	2 94	3 12

The only colonies where the rate is diminishing are Western [illegible]ralia and Tasmania. In Western Australia the reason is probably [illegible] the hospital accommodation is limited, and that thereby many [illegible], especially males, escape notice.

[illegible]s been said that the trade depression lately experienced through- [illegible] Australasia, was the cause of an increase in insanity; and at first [illegible] looks as if this were so, because since 1892 there has been a [illegible]ite increase in the proportion of the population detained in asylums. [illegible]ooking at the rates of admissions this view does not seem to be [illegible]together borne out. Probably one effect of depressed times is to [illegible] to the asylums a number of harmless but demented persons who, [illegible]ther circumstances, would be supported by their relatives. In [illegible]land and Wales it is found that the increase in insanity has taken [illegible] amongst those who are termed the "pauper" class—that is, those [illegible] relatives are not in a position to support them after they lose [illegible]reason. On the other hand, the admissions in prosperous times [illegible] up by insanity either directly or indirectly induced by the [illegible] which commonly follows high wages and large gains.

The following table shows the average annual number of admissions and readmissions into the asylums in each colony, and the rate per 1,000 of population, during each of the two quinquennial periods 1889-93 and 1894-98:—

State	1889-93.		1894-98.	
	Average Number of Admissions per annum.	Rate per 1,000 of Population.	Average Number of Admissions per annum.	Rate per 1,000 of population.
New South Wales	622	0·55	718	0·56
[illegible]	709	0·62	707	0·60
[illegible]	265	0·67	259	0·58
[illegible]	225	0·70	205	0·57
[illegible]	25	0·51	74	0·62
[illegible]	70	0·47	61	0·37
[illegible]	1,920	0·60	2,024	0·57
New Zealand	413	0·65	576	0·81
[illegible]	2,333	0·61	2,600	0·61

[illegible] the rate of admissions has remained [illegible], although it has risen slightly in New South Wales, Western Australia and New Zealand [illegible] colonies.

[illegible] number of patients who were discharged during the ten years 1889-98, either recovered or temporary, or on account of [illegible] the total number who were under [illegible]

State	[illegible]	Discharged—recovered or relieved		Died	
		Number.	Per cent. of those under treatment.	Number.	Per cent. of those under treatment.
New South Wales	9,598	3,262	33·99	2,220	23·13
[illegible]	10,711	3,192	29·80	3,048	28·46
[illegible]	3,546	1,166	32·88	785	22·14
[illegible]	2,024	1,260	43·00	683	23·30
[illegible]	604	279	42·02	126	18·96
[illegible]	1,003	280	27·92	271	27·02
Commonwealth	28,446	9,439	33·18	7,133	24·06
New Zealand	6,626	2,216	33·44	1,196	18·05
Australasia	35,072	11,655	33·23	8,329	23·75

It is seen that, of the total number under treatment, 33·23 per cent. were discharged either partially or wholly recovered, and that 23·75 per cent. died. South Australia shows the highest proportion of recoveries, and Tasmania the lowest, while New Zealand has the lowest death rate, and Victoria the highest. Speaking generally, it is estimated that of the persons who are discharged from the asylums in Australasia, some 28 per cent. suffer a relapse and are readmitted; and it may be said that out of every 1,000 persons who are admitted for the first time, 420 will recover, and the sufferings of the remaining 580 will only be terminated by death.

Very little information is available as to the exciting or predisposing causes of insanity in the different colonies, New South Wales being the only one concerning which there is complete information. But that colony may be taken as typical of the whole, as the customs and conditions of living do not vary greatly in any of them, and the statement below enables a comparison to be made with the principal recorded causes of insanity in England and Wales. The causes are ranked in proportion to the average annual number of admissions.

Cause	Males.		Females.	
	New South Wales	England and Wales	New South Wales.	England and Wales
	per cent	per cent	per cent	per cent.
[illegible] trouble, Adverse circumstances, Mental anxiety	9·2	17·9	11·3	19·6
[illegible] drink	12·4	20·9	4·2	8·5
[illegible] Duration, ascertained; Congenital [illegible] ascertained	10·5	26·0	13·7	29·6
[illegible] Lactation, Parturition and Puerperal state, Uterine and Ovarian disease, Puberty, Change of life	...	...	14·0	16·7
[illegible] attacks	10·4	16·4	12·0	22·0
Unknown	25·8	18·4	18·4	15·8

Intemperance in drink is popularly supposed to be the most fruitful cause of insanity in the colonies, and although it does bear the highest proportion of known causes amongst males, it is not nearly so common a cause as in England. Amongst females, the chief causes of insanity in the colonies are pregnancy, &c. Hereditary influence and congenital defect in England and Wales, bear the largest proportion of known causes both amongst males and females, and it is believed they are responsible in New South Wales for many more than the number given in the table, and that of the unknown causes the great majority will be ascribed to hereditary influences. The small proportion of cases set down to these two causes is simply due to the difficulty of obtaining knowledge of the family history of a large number of the insane in Australasia.

The number of rooms is given below for all houses, whether occupied or unoccupied, except in the case of New South Wales and New Zealand, where the figures given refer only to occupied dwellings :—

Dwellings, with	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
room	24,876	28,497		1,948	2,075	2,469	11,323
rooms	16,137			7,397	1,612	4,092	11,630
and four rooms	65,020	156,976		29,256	2,855	11,627	41,934
and six rooms	64,342			15,911	1,440	6,880	32,365
to ten rooms	32,275	36,044		9,614	1,856	5,413	24,008
to fifteen rooms	7,371	7,061			318		
to twenty rooms	1,912	1,673	..		92		
than twenty rooms	1,100	1,226			47		
er of rooms unspecified	1,947	9,183		761	235	320	1,523
Total	215,040	241,560	80,697	63,887	10,530	29,801	123,851

In Queensland the habitations were enumerated under the Quinquennial Census Act, which does not provide for a statement either of the materials of which houses are constructed or of the number of rooms which they contain. From the foregoing figures it will be seen that in Australasia there are nearly 5¼ persons to every occupied house.

EDUCATION.

IT [illegible] so prosper[illegible] provide for the [illegible] the welfare of [illegible] much the [illegible] of the g[illegible] such provis[illegible] done in [illegible] system of pri[illegible] high schools [illegible] for the hig[illegible] made by th[illegible] and th[illegible] ignorance of th[illegible] colonisation but litt[illegible] as the sharp struggl[illegible] to provide means of [illegible] conditions were land of mi[illegible] creditable to these [illegible] were naturally the first to be[illegible] was always a large proportion [illegible] principally those who h[illegible] not subsidised by the State, h[illegible] sectarian system, which has in the cou[illegible] educational field.

[illegible] comes the State system of edu[illegible] finds a place in the Acts of th[illegible] enforcement of these is not everywhe[illegible] for example, compulsory attendance at [illegible] insisted upon, while in Queensland the p[illegible] has been allowed to remain almost in abeyanc[illegible] it has been enforced with varying degrees [illegible] Queensland, New Zealand, Western Aust[illegible] the primary education provided by the State [illegible] free to the parents; in New South Wales and [illegible] are charged, but these are not enforced where the p[illegible] y plead poverty

The statutory school-age of each colony is as follows :—

New South Wales	over 6	and under	14	years.
Victoria	,, 6	,,	13	,,
Queensland	,, 6	,,	12	,,
South Australia	,, 7	,,	13	,,
Western Australia	,, 6	,,	14	,,
Tasmania	,, 7	,,	13	,,
New Zealand	,, 7	,,	13	,,

New South Wales, for many years, a dual system of education was in ance. The four State-aided denominations—the Church of England, an Catholic, Presbyterian, and Wesleyan bodies—had schools sup- d by annual votes from Parliament, administered under the control e head of each denomination for the time being. There were also nal schools, likewise supported by the State, but under the control Board appointed by the Government. This plan was found to be and wasteful in the extreme, for in many country towns there in existance several small and inefficient competing schools where tal number of children was not more than sufficient for one well cted establishment. So strongly was this evil felt that changes in w were made from time to time, until at length the denominational n was abolished altogether, and one general and comprehensive of Public Instruction adopted in its place. This reform was not plished without much agitation, extending over a considerable d. A league was formed with the object of securing the establish- of secular, compulsory, and free education, and in 1880, under the es of Sir Henry Parkes, the measure establishing the present system r law. Education in the public schools is now non-sectarian, h facilities are afforded to clergymen to give religious instruction specified school-hours to children whose parents belong to their mination and desire that this instruction shall be given. It is sory, and free to all who cannot afford to pay, while a merely nal fee is charged to those who are in a position to contribute to- the cost of the teaching of their children. For secondary education are a number of superior and high schools entirely supported by tate, besides numerous colleges, grammar schools, and denominational s which obtain no assistance from the Government, excepting the y Grammar School, which receives a statutory endowment of 0. Scholarships and bursaries have been founded in connection many of these schools. The University of Sydney, which is liberally ed by private individuals as well as by the State, grants degrees rank with those of Oxford and Cambridge. Educational affairs in ony are under the direction of a Minister for Public Instruction.

Victoria, under an Act passed in 1872, a system of free, compul- and secular primary education is in force, under a Minister of Instruction, who is responsible to Parliament. The compulsory is very strictly enforced, especially in the large towns, and ion is entirely free as regards the ordinary subjects of primary tion, while the teachers are allowed to impart instruction in

ditional subjects, for which a small fee is payable. The teaching of digion is strictly forbidden during school-hours, and at no time must a ate teacher give religious instruction. Secondary education is almost tirely in the hands of private or denominational establishments. The gher education is supplied by the University, with its affiliated colleges. The Education Department in Queensland is administered by the cretary for Public Instruction. The Act now in force was passed in 75, and is of a tolerably liberal character, primary education being cular and free. An Amendment Act came into operation in 1898, tending the range of subjects taught in State schools and reducing e number taught in the Provisional schools. The compulsory clause s not been put into operation, as it would be a very difficult thing enforce its provisions in the scattered and sparsely populated districts the interior. The public schools are divided into two classes, termed ate and Provisional schools. A State school must have an average ily attendance of not less than thirty children, and the local district nst contribute one-fifth of the cost of establishing, maintaining, repairg, and making additions to the building. In 1899, Provisional schools hich had previously received a subsidy not exceeding £50 for any gle school, and not more than half the cost of new buildings and rniture, were placed on the same footing with regard to Government ants as the State schools. Secondary education is provided by grammar hools, which are liberally assisted by the State. The colony has no niversity of its own, but sends a fair number of students to the niversities of Sydney and Melbourne. The system of extension lectures connection with the University of Sydney has been extended to eensland, and the Government is at present considering a Bill ving for its object the establishment of a University in Brisbane.

The South Australian system of primary education, which was introduced in its present form in 1878, is very similar to the systems already scribed. Public instruction in the colony is presided over by sponsible Minister, with an Inspector General and other officials. compulsory, secular, and free. Until the end of 1891 a small weekly e was payable by all parents able to do so; but at the beginning of 92 primary instruction was made free until the scholar reached the e of 13 years or had been educated to the compulsory standard, and 1898 the remaining fees were abolished by the Minister for Education. Children who have attained a certain standard of education are empt from compulsory attendance. Religious instruction is not allowed cept out of ordinary school hours. Secondary education is in the nds of private and denominational establishments; and the University Adelaide, though small, is efficient.

Under the Elementary Education Act of 1871, primary education Western Australia is imparted in Government schools, which are tirely supported by the State. An Amendment Act passed in 189 aced educational affairs in the colony under the control of a responsible inister, and afforded facilities for special religious teaching, half-an-hou

day being allotted to clergymen for the instruction of children of e same denomination. Another Amendment Act which came into ce in 1894 abolished payment by results, and gave powers for the orcement of compulsory attendance. Until 1895, private schools re also assisted from the public purse, on condition of submitting to vernment inspection in secular subjects; but towards the end of that ar an Act was passed abolishing the system of annual grants to denominational schools, and providing that during the year 1896 the State ould hand over, as compensation for the abolition of these subsidies, e sum of £15,000, to be divided between the schools in like proportions to those which governed the distribution of the annual vote in 1895. nder the regulations of 1895, children were entitled to free education account of inability to pay the fees, of living more than 1 mile from hool, of having made 400 half-day attendances in the previous year, of other reasons approved by the Minister, but the Education Act hich came into operation in 1899 gave free education to all children compulsory school age. There is a high school at Perth, which is ubsidised by the State; and further encouragement is given to secondary struction by the institution of scholarships which are open to com-tition.

In Tasmania the Treasurer holds the portfolio of Education, and s special charge of matters relating to primary instruction. The manent head of the department is styled Director of Education. re are public schools in every country town throughout the colony, several in Hobart and Launceston. The principle of compulsion is force in these two towns; and special religious instruction is ven by the Church of England clergy out of school hours. Secondary ucation was at one time encouraged by exhibitions, but none have granted since 1893. The University of Tasmania was established 1890), and at first was merely an examining body, but in the beginning the year 1893 a building was acquired and teaching provided for the ns of enabling students to graduate in Arts, Science, and Laws. first degree, one of B.A., was taken in 1894. The Government nts the institution an annual subsidy, the amount voted by Parlia-t in 1899 being £3,200.

ucation at the public schools of New Zealand is free (except that h as are also district high schools fees are charged for instruction higher branches) and purely secular. The attendance of all ren between the ages of 6 and 13 years is compulsory, except es where special exemptions have been granted. There is separate Department of Education, presided over by one of the nisterial Ministers of the Crown, as in the other colonies. The colony has been divided into school districts, each presided over a local Board, and a capitation grant of £3 15s. per head is paid by State for every child in average attendance, and, in addition, 1s. 6d. child in support of scholarships, with other grants for school-ildings, training of teachers, etc. In districts where there are few

[illegible] schools are maintained for the Maori ch[illegible] and grammar schools provide the mea[illegible] education, and the University of New Ze[illegible] is empowered to confer the same d[illegible] of Oxford and Cambridge, except as r[illegible] however, only an examining body, the undergra[illegible] at the affiliated colleges—the University of C[illegible] College, the Auckland University College, an[illegible] at Wellington.

State Schools.

[illegible] established by the New Ze[illegible] children there were [illegible] year 1899. The nu[illegible] be seen on referen[illegible] education is provide[illegible] be taken as represe[illegible] there are five high sch[illegible] The [illegible] returns:

[illegible]	[illegible]	Teachers employed, exclusive of Sewing Mistresses.		
		Males.	Females.	Total.
[illegible]	[illegible]	2,588	2,[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	411	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	176	[illegible]	433
[illegible]	[illegible]	210	[illegible]	585
[illegible]	6,658	6,180	7,[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	1,645	1,451	2,164	[illegible]
[illegible]	8,303	7,631	9,383	17,014

[illegible] with the exception of Victoria, there has be[illegible] the number of State schools during the past [illegible] the reverse has been the case, for since 1891 [illegible] has decreased from 2,233 to 1,892. This is [illegible] of retrenchment, initiated at that time, by w[illegible] amalgamation of schools in large centres of po[illegible] districts schools have been closed and the pupils [illegible] at the cost of the State. Under the [illegible] no fewer than 84 schools have been converted

ns to others in the neighbourhood. At these adjuncts—which
s included in the number of schools set down in the table
ction is now imparted only to young children, in junior classes.
stem of conveyance, brought into operation under the second part
scheme, has been the means of closing 270 schools, an allowance
made by the State to parents to defray the cost of conveyance of
children to schools further removed from their place of abode.
thstanding the reduction in the number of schools during the past
ars, consequent on the above retrenchment policy, the increased
tion of average attendance shows that educational facilities are
stributed.

884 schools in Queensland include 412 State schools, 3 special
, and 469 "provisional" schools. In compliance with a resolu
the Legislative Assembly, the last mentioned schools, which had
sly been receiving a subsidy not exceeding £50, and not more
alf the cost of new buildings and furniture, were placed on the
footing as State schools in regard to subsidy. By this step the
assumed the responsibility for four-fifths of the cost of building and
ent without limitation as to the amount. For Western Australia,
urns for years prior to 1896 included State-aided denominational
. From these establishments the Government subsidy was
awn at the end of 1895, and thenceforth they were placed out-
e sphere of the operations of the Education Department. This
should be borne in mind when comparing the figures with those
for previous years, otherwise the extension of public instruction
colony would seem to be incommensurate with the growth of
tion. As a matter of fact, the progress has been rapid, and
State schools were opened in 1899.

hown in the previous table, the total number of teachers em-
in the 8,303 State schools was 17,014—7,631 males and 9,383
s—exclusive of sewing mistresses, of whom there were 60 in New
Wales, 429 in Victoria, 19 in South Australia, 40 in Western
alia, and 198 in New Zealand. New South Wales is the only
where employment is afforded to a greater number of male
rs in comparison with females; in all the other provinces there is
e preponderance of female instructors. In most of the colonies
ion is made for the training of teachers. In New South Wales,
ort street Training School for male students had 23 students in
ng in 1899, 15 of whom held full scholarships, and 8 half scholar-
; while at the Hurlstone Training School for female students there
24 students in residence, 11 of whom held full-scholarships, and
rnal scholarships. There were 21 students in the training college
th Australia. A scheme for the more efficient training of pupil-
ers has been arranged, under which, for the first two years of their
, pupil-teachers will not be required to teach, but will receive
ction at the Training College. For the third and fourth years they
ngage in practical teaching, and may then be entered as students

at Adelaide University for a period of two years. In New Zea[illegible] the Education Boards of North Canterbury and Otago have institu[illegible] for the training of teachers.

Enrolment at State Schools.

The gross enrolment of [illegible] at the State schools of Austra[illegible] during 1899 was [illegible] while the net enrolment, or the numb[illegible] distinct children, [illegible] 17·19 per cent. of the [illegible] population. [illegible] the net enrolment is obtaine[illegible] an [illegible] a certain proportion (about 12 [illegible] cent.) from the [illegible] table gives the gross [illegible] net [illegible] five years there has [illegible] an [illegible] enrolment at the State sch[illegible] of Australasia [illegible] the largest proporti[illegible] [illegible] where, excluding [illegible] 119 per cent. In Que[illegible] [illegible] in New South Wales, 21 [illegible] per cent. For South Austra[illegible] [illegible] increases were 5·62 per ce[illegible]

[illegible]	[illegible] Enrolment	Net Enrolment. Total.	Net Enrolment. Percentage of [illegible]
[illegible]	265,037	233,233	17·34
[illegible]	239,732	214,522	18·45
[illegible]	103,544	92,120	19·31
[illegible]	68,329	62,316	16·94
[illegible]	16,053	14,127	8·53
[illegible]	23,272	17,682	9·84
[illegible]	715,967	634,000	17·13
[illegible]	150,000	131,315	17·51
[illegible]	865,967	765,315	17·19

[illegible] the largest percentage of the population enro[illegible] [illegible] was to be found in Queensland, and the lowest [illegible] Such a comparison, however, is of very little val[illegible] [illegible] which the children of school age bear to [illegible] [illegible] considerably in the different colonies, being [illegible] in New Zealand, as compared with 21 per cent. [illegible] Wales and 19 per cent. in Victoria, while in West[illegible] [illegible] is still at its pioneer stage, there must of necessity [illegible] percentage of dependent children than in the m[illegible] settled colonies.

more important, perhaps, than the number of children enrolled is the average attendance. This, for scholars at the State schools during the year 1899, was 330,617, representing about 64 per school and 31 per teacher, and 11·92 per cent. of the population of Australasia. The figures for the individual colonies will be found appended :—

State.	Scholars in average attendance.			
	Total	Per School	Per Teacher	Per centage of population
New South Wales	140,349	55	31	11 10
Victoria	143,844	76	33	12 38
Queensland	63,133	71	32	13 24
South Australia	41,655	62	33	11 32
Western Australia	12,465	60	20	7 35
Tasmania	13,105	43	22	7·29
Commonwealth...	423,551	64	32	11·44
New Zealand	107,066	65	29	14·27
Australasia	530,617	64	31	11 92

According to the official returns, the proportion of the net enrolment to the mean average attendance was highest in Western Australia, the percentage for which colony was 88·2. This was followed by New Zealand with 81·5 per cent., while Tasmania was third with 74·1 per cent. The percentage for Queensland was 68·5; for Victoria, 67·0; for South Australia, 66·8; and for New South Wales, 61·0. Comparing the first with the last year of the latest quinquennial period, it is seen that all the colonies show increases in average attendance, with the exception of New Zealand, where there has been a slight decrease. The greatest increase was recorded in Western Australia, the figures for 1899 being nearly three times larger than the corresponding figures for 1895. The percentage of the population of New Zealand shown as in average attendance at the State schools, it must be remarked, is rather higher than it should be, on account of a number of Maori children attending the ordinary schools in districts where there are none established for the "natives," while the basis on which the proportion has been calculated is the population exclusive of Maoris. Still, when full allowance has been made on this score, the percentage is higher than is found in any other colony. The native schools in New Zealand, of which the number was 84, had a teaching staff of 148, exclusive of 11 sewing-mistresses, in 1899, with an enrolment of 3,065 and an average attendance of 2,435 scholars, and the expenditure on the schools during the year amounted to £23,031. Of the children who received instruction at these institutions, 80 per cent. were Maori, 10 per cent. were half-caste, and 10 per cent. were European or between half-caste and European.

Cost of Primary Education.

The official reports of the various colonies show that during the year [illegible] of administration and maintenance of the State schools of [illegible] was £[illegible], while the revenue from fees, rents, sales of [illegible] amounted to £111,[illegible] leaving a net cost to the State of [illegible] a sum of £253,[illegible] expended on school premises [illegible] where primary or secondary education is [illegible] in these figures. The expenditure for each of the [illegible] In the case of New Zealand, the amounts [illegible] the disbursements of the Education Boards, [illegible] grant received from the Government [illegible] accurately represent the cost of [illegible] From the total cost to the [illegible] Education Reserves, £[illegible] grant is now reduced by [illegible] these reserves, so that [illegible] Revenue. The figures [illegible] as most of the principal [illegible] rent charge is made. In the [illegible] value of these residences [illegible]

[illegible]	[illegible]	Receipts from Fees, Rents, &c.	Net Cost [illegible] Premises	Expended on School Premises
	£	£	£	£
[illegible]	[illegible]	78,358	567,796	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	11,807	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]		[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	11,777	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	49,145	1,980	47,165	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	1,257	36,259	[illegible]
[illegible]	1,710,485	105,269	1,605,216	196,686
[illegible]	437,324	6,318	431,006	[illegible]
[illegible]	2,147,809	111,587	2,036,222	[illegible]

* Year ending 30th June, 1900.

[illegible] of Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western [illegible] and New Zealand, primary education is free; in the other [illegible] a small fee is charged, but, as will be seen from the table, [illegible] derived from this source is very small in Tasmania. In [illegible] Wales the fee charged is 3d. per week for each child, the

tion payable by one family being limited to one shilling; and the receipts amount to a considerable sum annually, totalling £78,358 in 1899. Free education is, of course, given to those children whose parents cannot afford to pay for them, and the number of children so treated during last year was 34,476—equal to 14·78 per cent. of the gross enrolment of distinct pupils. In Tasmania, the teachers are allowed to retain the bulk of the fees collected, their salaries being fixed accordingly. Thus, in 1899, the fees amounted to £10,948, of which the Government took £1,257, as shown above, and the teachers retained the balance of £9,691. In the smaller schools the fees go wholly to the teacher, and in the larger the State takes a small share where the amount received is moderate, but a more substantial part where the fees amount to hundreds per annum. Free education is, as in New South Wales, granted in cases of necessity, and for this purpose two public schools were established in Hobart and Launceston, but as it was considered that this system affixed a brand of pauperism to the children making use of them, they have now been abolished, and the pupils find free education at the ordinary schools. The average number of free scholars on the quarterly rolls for 1899 was 2,512. In 1899 an Education Act was passed in Western Australia, which had for its object the granting of free education to all children of compulsory school age. The work of compulsion was also systematised, and the returns for 1899 show the highest percentage of attendance for any year since 1870.

Although primary instruction is free in Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, and New Zealand, yet Queensland is the only country where no fees were received in 1899, but, as pointed out on a previous page, the State receives contributions from local districts towards the construction of school buildings, the amount of such contributions in 1899 being £5,585. In Victoria fees are charged for instruction in extra subjects, such as book keeping, shorthand, algebra, Euclid, French, Latin, Science, &c. During last year extra subjects were taught in 117 schools, and the fees collected represent £2,286 of the sum of £11,897 shown above, the balance, consisting of £9,611, being made up of fines, rents, and the amount realised by the sale of publications, and although not directly applied by the State towards the reduction of departmental expenditure, has been so treated here. In South Australia the receipts during 1899 included £6,067 from rents, £3,898 from sale of books and school material, and the fees from the Advanced School for Girls amounted in 1899 to £1,307. The receipts of £6,318 in New Zealand were made up of fees, donations, rents, sales, etc., received by the Education Boards, and represent the whole local contributions.

It will be seen from the above table that, excluding the expenditure on land premises, the net cost of public instruction in Australasia in 1899 was £2,036,222. This is equivalent to £3 16s. 9d. for each child in average attendance during the year; while, if the expenditure on

buildings is taken into account, the amount reaches £4 6s 4d. child. The figures for each of the seven colonies are presented belo

State.	Net Cost to State, per scholar in average attendance	
	Excluding School Premises.	Including School Premises.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
New South Wales	3 16 0	4 8 2
Victoria	4 5 11	4 12 0
Queensland	3 5 11	3 14 11
South Australia	3 1 5	3 9 3
Western Australia	3 15 8	4 16 0
Tasmania	2 15 4	3 1 0
Commonwealth	3 15 10	4 5 1
New Zealand	4 0 6	4 11 1
Australasia	3 16 9	4 6 4

In the matter of expenditure per child in average attendance South Wales now occupies a medium position, although a few ago the cost of public instruction in that colony was higher than any of the other provinces. Careful retrenchment has been effected the department, without impairing the efficiency of the service. W the exception of New Zealand, where a diminished average attend caused an increase of 8s. 10d., all the colonies show a reduction expenditure on administration and maintenance per child in ave attendance as compared with the figures for 1894. For New S Wales the decrease amounted to 3s. 5d. per scholar; for Victor 7s. 10d.; for Queensland, to 16s. 7d.; for South Australia, to 12s for Western Australia, to 13s. 1d.; and for Tasmania, to 6s. 5d.

Encouragement of Secondary Education.

Before passing to the consideration of private schools, reference be made to the encouragement of secondary education by the S apart from grants to the Universities. In New South Wales there numerous private colleges of a high class, but the only one now rece assistance from the Government is the Sydney Grammar School, w has a statutory endowment of £1,500 per annum. There are, how five State High Schools in the colony—two for boys and three for gi where higher education may be obtained at a moderate cost, as w 102 Superior Schools, in the higher classes of which pupils are pre for the public examinations. In 1899 the expenditure on the Schools amounted to £5,779. Of the High School pupils, 72 we

passes at the junior and 11 at the senior examinations, while 44 qualified for matriculation; and 4 senior and 216 junior passes were secured in the Superior Schools. A scheme of scholarships for the Sydney Grammar School, for High and Superior Schools, and for the University, is in existence. In 1899, 105 candidates were successful at these examinations. Fifty secured scholarships and 40 bursaries for High and Superior Schools, 5, bursaries at the Sydney Grammar School; and 10, University bursaries.

In Victoria, as previously pointed out, extra subjects are taught for a small fee at 117 of the public schools. For the encouragement of secondary education, 200 scholarships were granted from 1886 to 1890, but in 1891 the number was reduced to 100, and in 1892 to 75. Consequent on the retrenchment policy already alluded to, these scholarships were abolished in 1893, but the principals of private colleges offered a large number of exhibitions to children attending State schools. The Department has, however, decided to introduce paid scholarships similar to those withdrawn in 1893; and under the new scheme, 60 exhibitions of the annual value of £10 will be awarded, the first examination to be held in December, 1900. There were 146 scholarships awarded in 1899 to State school pupils by principals of the various secondary schools. The Department annually bestows a number of exhibitions to the University on pupils who have gained scholarships at secondary schools. At the examinations for these exhibitions, held in January, 1900, 20 candidates were successful. There are at present 56 exhibitions.

Steps have recently been taken in Queensland to add to the curriculum of the State schools, in order that they may be brought more into line with the superior public schools of New South Wales. Secondary education, however, has long been provided for by the liberal endowment of the private grammar schools, and by a system of scholarships for these schools, which at present number ten. Each is subsidised to the extent of £1,000 annually; and the total amount of endowments and grants by the State to these institutions to the end of 1899 was £[illegible],535. At the annual examinations for scholarships, 27 boys and [illegible] girls were successful, while bursaries were gained by 6 boys and 2 girls. In the last quarter of 1899 there were altogether 160 State scholars in attendance at the various grammar schools. There were [illegible] exhibitions granted in 1899, one of them being obtained by a girl. Of the 66 exhibitions granted since the year 1878, when they were first created, 49 have been gained by students who had previously won scholarships from State schools.

In South Australia the Advanced School for Girls was attended by [illegible] pupils in 1899. The fees amounted to £1,307, and the expenditure £1,190, so that there was a profit on the year's transactions of [illegible]. There are twelve bursaries for this school annually awarded to [illegible] school pupils. Scholarships to public schools, twelve in number, are awarded annually by the State, as well as nine University scholarships,

namely, three entrance scholarships, three first-year undergra[illegible] scholarships, and three second-year undergraduate scholarships. [illegible] Western Australia there is a high school for boys at Perth, wh[illegible] subsidised by the Government to the amount of £1,250 annually. [illegible] the number of pupils on the roll, including boarders, was 83, an[illegible] average daily attendance was 69. Two State scholarships for this [illegible] value, at £75 each and tenable for three years, are awarded ann[illegible] The Government also offers annually ten bursaries of the value of [illegible] attending the elementary schools of the colony—five to [illegible] and five to girls. In Tasmania a system of exhibitions was [illegible] in force, but none have been granted since 1893. New Ze[illegible] has [illegible] incorporated or endowed secondary schools, with a re[illegible] teaching staff of 145, and a visiting staff of 51. At the end of [illegible] there were 2,723 pupils on the rolls, of whom all but 153 were [illegible] years of age. For that year the receipts amounted to £50,28[illegible] [illegible] derived from interest on investments and rent[illegible] reserves, [illegible] from fees. These schools, it should be noted [illegible] directly by the State. Some have endowments of [illegible] and from the rents derived from the Educ[illegible] Reserves administered by the School Commissioners.

Private Schools.

At the end of 1899 there were 3,006 private schools in Austral[illegible] with a total teaching staff estimated at 9,316. The total numb[illegible] [illegible] the rolls was 164,528, and the average attendance, 130,[illegible] [illegible] will be found the figures for the individual colonies. At [illegible] end of 1899 the Government subsidy was withdrawn from the assi[illegible] schools in Western Australia, and, thenceforward, information respe[illegible] these institutions is incorporated in the returns for private schools.

State	Schools	Teachers.	Enrolment		Average Attendance.
			Total	Percentage of Population	
New South Wales .	1,053	3,407	60,159	4·48	47,560
[illegible]	901	2,703	48,521	4·18	35,232
Queensland	176	646	14,166	2·97	12,118
South Australia ...	241	741	11,027	3·16	10,120
Western Australia	83	281	5,812	3·43	4,[illegible]59
Tasmania	245	735	8,948	4·98	7,820
Commonwealth	2,699	8,513	149,233	4·03	117,209
New Zealand ..	307	803	15,295	2·04	13,165
Australasia ...	3,006	9,316	164,528	3·70	130,374

ew South Wales there has been a large increase in private during the past five years. Since 1894 the number of schools eased from 863 to 1,053, and the enrolment from 51,016 to 60,159. private schools in the colony, 318 are Roman Catholic, as d with 69 connected with the other Churches, while 666 are minational; but of the scholars enrolled, more than three-fifths are in attendance at Roman Catholic schools, while 4,245 attend of England schools, 1,237, schools belonging to other denomina- and 15,028, the undenominational schools. Since 1894 the pupils Roman Catholic schools have increased by 13 per cent., which 5 per cent less than the general rate of increase. Many of ivate schools are institutions of a high class. Only one the Grammar School is assisted by the State, which provides a endowment of £1,500 per annum. In 1899 the staff of this onsisted of 21 teachers; the total enrolment was 590; the average ent, 508; and the average daily attendance, 484. The receipts year totalled £10,196, of which £8,562 represented fees; while penditure was £9,338.

n returns furnished by the principals of private schools in a, it appears that the total number of institutions has increased 72 in 1894 to 901 at the end of 1899, while the gross enrolment ed from 44,038 to 52,318 during the same period. In lony the principals of a number of the private colleges have scholarships at their institutions to State school pupils since vernment retrenched in this respect. These colleges are not ed by the State.

he 176 private schools in Queensland, the principal are the ten r schools, which are situated at Brisbane, Ipswich, Maryborough, mpton, Townsville, and Toowoomba. In each of the first four there are two schools—one for girls and one for boys. In 1899 ching staff of the grammar schools consisted of 54 permanent visiting teachers; the aggregate number of pupils on the rolls 79, and the average daily attendance, 729. As previously ed, each of the ten schools receives an annual grant of £1,000 e State. During 1899 the total receipts amounted to £25,470, expenditure to £25,225, of which salaries and capitation fees ed £15,464.

e is no special information available with respect to the private in South Australia. In Western Australia the principal private ion is the Perth High School for Boys, which, in 1898, received a of £1,250 from the Government. The school is under the super- of a Board of Governors. In 1899 the teaching staff numbered total number of pupils enrolled was 83, of whom 15 were s, and the average daily attendance was 69. The receipts for r amounted to £2,582, and the expenditure to £2,486.

dealt with the 245 private schools in Tasmania are 20 grammar and colleges, 9 of which are undenominational in character,

[illegible] of England, 3 with the Roman [illegible] and 1 with the Society of [illegible] at these institutions in [illegible] students. The average [illegible] of whom [illegible] were of the [illegible] As in New South Wales, the majority [illegible] New Zealand are enrolled at the [illegible] the number of schools belonging [illegible] scholars were enrolled, [illegible]

Diffusion of Education.

[illegible] Governments of the various states ha[illegible] children, and throughout Austr[illegible] of children of certain ages [illegible] in spite of the law and in spite of the [illegible] states, large numbers of chil[illegible] and a large number with ver[illegible] that the officials of the [illegible] the instruction of children are to [illegible] on the contrary, they have ma[illegible] continuance of the evil [illegible] of parents, and the effects [illegible] to appear very stro[illegible]

[illegible] estimated that there are [illegible] of these [illegible] 13,000 [illegible] satisfactory [illegible] instruction [illegible] far from sati[illegible] children of [illegible] 12,600 attend [illegible] schools the [illegible] are believed to [illegible] 000, and if [illegible] educated at hom[illegible] number of ch[illegible] set down at 17[illegible] of school age who [illegible] Instruction certificates [illegible] of education entitling [illegible] and most of whom n[illegible]

hool. Adding these to the figures just arrived at, gives a total
0 children of school age who are being regularly instructed, or
received the minimum instruction required by law. It would,
appear that 67,100 children are not being properly instructed.
tions show that of this number 35,000 are attending school,
for a day or two a week, the number of children, therefore,
ht to be attending school, but who are not receiving any
on whatever, may be set down at 32,000. Some of the latter
bsolutely illiterate—perhaps the majority of them; they have
school at some period, and can read and write a little, but in
o all of them, and to a large proportion of the 35,000 nomin-
iving instruction, the intentions of the Public Instruction Act
ted.

ctoria, the school ages are from 6 to 12 years, both inclusive,
reful estimate shows that the number of children of school age
was 200,000. There were 165,224 children of these ages on
of State schools, and 34,562 on the roll of private schools,
total of 199,786. If these figures represented the true facts
se, they would be eminently satisfactory, as it would appear as
child in Victoria were being educated, but a little examination
very different condition of affairs. In State schools there
4,974 children in regular attendance, and 2,740 who, though
g school irregularly, held certificates to the effect that they
ained up to the requirements of the law, while there were also
,600 who, though younger than 13 years and not attending
ad obtained these certificates. These figures give a total of
It will probably be admitted that the proportion of children
dance at private schools, compared with the number on the
olls, is not greater than in the State schools. Assuming the
ons to be the same, of the 34,562 children 6 and under 13 years
nrolled at private schools, 24,200 may be considered as being
instructed. Adding these figures to the result for the State
the total number of children of school age who are being
instructed in State or private schools, or have already reached
irst standard, may be set down at 152,514, and the number
g instructed in the schools of the colony at 47,486. At the
f 1891, 5,612 children of school ages were being taught at
d if 7,000 be taken as the present number of such children, it
ppear that there are 40,486 children not being taught at home,
gular attendance at State schools. According to the depart-
part, there were 22,013 children excused from regular attend
reasonable grounds, and possibly some of the children not
d for (18,473) were in receipt of some sort of instruction: but
ery allowance is made, it will be found that even in Victoria,
e State has offered so many inducements for the children to
chool, and spent money so liberally, there is a large number
up in black ignorance.

The number of children of school age in South Australia is estim
at 51,800—of these 30,908 attended the State schools for at
thirty five days per quarter, and 4,060 may be assumed to have att
regularly at private schools, making a total of 34,968 children
regularly instructed at school. To these must be added 3,600 rec
instruction at home, so that the full number of children of scho
being regularly instructed is 38,568, leaving 13,232 not being pr
instructed. The Education Department of South Australia acc
for 4,130 of these children as having given satisfactory reasons f
attending school, and many of the others are too far removed
schools to attend regularly, or to attend at all; but, granting the
factory character of the excuses offered, the fact remains that,
New South Wales and Victoria, a large number of children of s
age are not being regularly instructed.

With regard to the other States, no definite information is procur
but it is to be found that there is great room for imp
with respect to the attendance at school of children of the
proper ages.

The following shows children attending school in various years since

1861	130,060
1871	312,130
1881	670,776
1891	803,800
1899	929,843

From 1861 to 1899 the children of school age increased by over
per cent., the number of children in attendance at school incr
by more than 615 per cent. during the same period.

University Education.

The advance of education is hardly more clearly indicated by
creation and success of Colleges and Universities than is the pr
of wealth or the attainment of leisure. In Australia the ea
attempts to provide for what may be termed the luxuries of e
education were made in New South Wales in 1852, and in Victo
1853, when the Universities of Sydney and Melbourne respec
were established. No other colony of Australasia was at that
sufficiently advanced in wealth and population to follow the ex
thus set, but New Zealand in 1870, South Australia in 1874,
Tasmania in 1890, each founded a University. In all case
Universities are in part supported by grants from the public funds
in part by private endowments and the fees paid by students.

The Government endowment, lecture fees, and income from other sources, received by the Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, and Tasmanian Universities in 1899, were as follow :—

University.	Government Endowment.	Lecture Fees.	Other Sources.	Total
	£	£	£	£
Sydney	11,267	8,591	14,609	34,467
Melbourne	12,750	15,171	728	28,649
Adelaide	6,539	6,597	5,360	18,496
Tasmania	3,200	554	65	3,819

* Year 1898.

In addition to the above annual endowment, the Adelaide University has received a perpetual endowment of 50,000 acres of land from the Government of South Australia. The University of New Zealand has a statutory grant of £3,000 a year from Government, and an additional income of about £2,500 from degree and examination fees. Of the affiliated colleges, Auckland University College is in receipt of a statutory grant of £4,000 a year from Government. The University of Otago receives a sum of about £5,500 annually from rents of reserves.

The number of students attending lectures in 1899 is shown below. In New Zealand the students keep their terms principally at the University of Otago, the Canterbury College, the Victoria College, and the Auckland University College.

University	Students attending Lectures.		
	Matriculated.	Not Matriculated.	Total
Sydney	482	37	519
Melbourne	539	152	691
Adelaide	103	208	311
New Zealand	448	219	667
Tasmania	25	10	35
Total	1,597	626	2,223

Attached to the University of Sydney there are three denominational colleges for male students, and a fourth, undenominational character, for female students. In Melbourne there are three affiliated denominational colleges, one of which contains a hall for the accommodation of female students. In Adelaide and Hobart there are no affiliated colleges attached to the University; and in New Zealand the University itself is an examining and not a teaching body,

[illegible] three undenominational col[illegible] [illegible] besides several smaller [illegible] graduates.

The [illegible] are empowered to grant th[illegible] [illegible] with the exception of deg[illegible] [illegible] women have now been a[illegible] [illegible] to male students, and [illegible] this includes qu[illegible]

[illegible] Universities, in [illegible] *[illegible]*, is as fol[illegible]

[illegible]	1,755
[illegible]	2,758
[illegible]	456
[illegible]	766
[illegible]	149

[illegible] for degrees at the [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] all the capital cities [illegible] other parts of the count[illegible] [illegible] matters will [illegible] [illegible] on this imp[illegible] [illegible] similar [illegible]

	£
[illegible]	27,896
[illegible]	24,740
[illegible]	7,684
[illegible]	397
[illegible]	1,238
[illegible]	4,637

* Year 1898.

[illegible] the year 1878, a sum of £2,0[illegible] [illegible] towards the organisation of a Technica[illegible] [illegible] of the institution was carried on in [illegible] School of Arts. In 1883, however, a Bo[illegible] [illegible] to take over its management, a[illegible] [illegible] became a State institution. Towa[illegible] [illegible] was dissolved, and the institution came [illegible] the Minister of Public Instruction. The [illegible] Museum, is housed in a fine buil[illegible] [illegible] is open to both male and female students. [illegible] established in the suburbs of Sydn[illegible] [illegible] districts, and technical instruction is als[illegible] [illegible] In 1899 there were 250 technical [illegible] [illegible] of which 170 were held in Sydney and suburbs, 118

untry districts, and 22 in connection with the public schools. The olment at these classes was 10,256, namely, 5,896 in Sydney and urbs, 2,706 in the country districts, and 1,654 at the public schools. e number of individual students under instruction during the year s 7,647. In 1896 a Technical College was opened at Newcastle, and ew College at Bathurst in June, 1898. During the year the expendi e by the Government on technical education amounted to £27,896, which £24,073 was expended on the Technical College and branch ools, and £3,823 on account of Technological Museums. Fees to the unt of £4,856 were received from the students.

Technical education in Victoria has extended rapidly, but while the overnment of New South Wales has wholly borne the cost of this branch instruction, that of Victoria has received great assistance from private unificence, the Hon. F. Ormond, M.L.C., having given £15,500 to ist in the establishment of a Working Men's College. At the end 1899 there were 18 Schools of Mines and Technical Schools receiving d from the State. The total State expenditure during the year was 24,740.

Technical education has well advanced in South Australia. The hool of Design in Adelaide during 1899 had 451 students on the l, and there were branch schools at Port Adelaide and Gawler with enrolment of 31 and 58 students respectively. The School of Mines d Industries, founded in 1889, received Government aid in 1899 to extent of £3,250, while the receipts from fees and sale of materials students amounted to £2,815. Manual instruction is imparted in public schools, and special instruction in agriculture is also given various country centres.

In Queensland technical education has received great attention, and re are 20 technical colleges distributed amongst the chief towns. The te grants a subsidy of £ for £ of fees contributed by students. In 9 the total payments of the State to these institutions amounted to 7,684. The total receipts of the Colleges during the year reached a m of £16,258, and the expenditure was £15,988, of which salaries of chers absorbed £8,995. The number of individual students receiving truction was 3,817, namely, 2,110 males and 1,707 females. Statutory vision was made for providing technical instruction in mining by the ning of the School for Mines Act of 1894," but up to the present its visions have not been availed of.

In Tasmania the foundations of new Technical Schools were laid in 0 in Hobart, and there is a branch school in Launceston. The ools are under the direction of local Boards of Advice, the members which act directly under the Minister in charge of education. The ber of distinct students in 1898 was 416, of whom 124 were under ction at Hobart, and 292 at Launceston. The State aid during the r was £1,238. In Western Australia the question of establishing a hnical College still remains in abeyance, but evening classes have en conducted with successful results. The total number of students

...ing these classes in 1896 was 1,720, of whom 937 were ... The State expenditure during the year on t... ... and manual training amounted to £397.

... New Zealand there is a School of Mines in connection w... ... and two other Schools of Mines in mining di... ... Engineering and Technical Science, in connection w... ... and an Agricultural College at Canterbury.

... Elementary Instruction Act of 189... ... established for the purpose of imparting ... ... and art as are encouraged ... South Kensington, and the Ci... ... Provisions have been establis... ... of the public schools, and part of the sch... ... manual instruction. In connectio... ... and the City and Guilds In... ... in 1898. For the financi... ... expenditure on technical instructio... ... Government capitation allowances, w... ... in special grants. At the three ... ... about 230. There are 41 st... ... College, and 89 at the Sch... ... in connection with the Cant...

... Education.

... progress made by these color... ... a comparison of the educational ... four census enumerations of ... years the numbers who could ... made to read were as follow...

The figures in the preceding table refer to the total population, and the number of illiterates is therefore swollen by the inclusion of children under school going age. If the population over 5 years of age be considered in comparison with the total population, the results for the whole of Australasia will be as follow:

Degree of Education.	Whole Population.				Population over 5 years of age.			
	1861	1871.	1881.	1891	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.
Read and write ...	730,456	1,217,560	1,936,301	2,878,822	730,339	1,130,145	1,936,111	2,878,813
[illegible]	148,930	196,392	167,162	133,[illegible]2	143,[illegible]08	190,54[illegible]	161,295	128,447
Cannot read	373,273	508,361	639,087	789,001	168,929	285,286	243,[illegible]83	362,515
Total	1,252,659	1,922,313	2,742,550	3,801,615	1,043,176	1,605,976	2,340,989	[illegible]69,773

The following table affords a comparison of the number of each class in every 10,000 of the population for the same periods:—

Degree of Education.	Whole Population.				Population over 5 years of age			
	1861	1871.	1881.	1891.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891
Read and write ...	5,831	6,334	7,060	7,573	7,001	7,038	8,270	8,804
[illegible] ..	1,189	1,022	610	352	1,380	1,186	689	393
Cannot read	2,980	2,644	2,330	2,075	1,619	1,776	1,041	803
Total	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000

It will be seen, therefore, that while in 1861 there were only 7,001 persons who could read and write out of every 10,000 people over 5 years of age, the number in 1891 had increased to 8,804, while those who were totally illiterate had in the same period decreased from 1,619 to 803.

Looking at the matter still more closely with reference to age, it will be seen that the improvement in education is most marked in the case of the rising generation. The following table shows the degree of education of all children between the ages of 5 and 15 years in 1861, 1871, 1881, and 1891, numerically and per 10,000:—

Degree of Education.	Total between 5 and 15 years.				Per 10,000 children			
	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1861.	1871.	1881	1891
Read and write .	114,353	288,154	482,719	674,012	4,637	5,911	7,058	7,565
[illegible]	68,038	102,316	86,574	69,64[illegible]	2,759	2,099	1,2[illegible]6	7[illegible]
Cannot read	64,237	96,986	114,654	147,286	2,604	1,990	1,676	1,653
Total	246,628	487,456	683,947	890,932	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000

[illegible] and write has, therefor[illegible] [illegible] during the thi[illegible] [illegible] those able to read [illegible] what it was in 1861, [illegible] more than one-third during th[illegible] [illegible] further proof of the adv[illegible] [illegible] advantage of giving annu[illegible] [illegible] available for decennial [illegible] the Marriage Register by ma[illegible] [illegible] shown the information is not [illegible]

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]		[illegible]			1861			1891			
		Marks			Marks			Marks			Marks		
		M.	F.	Marriages	M.	F.	Marriages	M.	F.	Marriages	M.	F.	Marriages
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]			[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]			[illegible]			[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]			[illegible]			[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]			[illegible]			[illegible]			[illegible]			[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]			[illegible]			[illegible]			[illegible]			[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]			[illegible]			[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]			[illegible]			[illegible]			[illegible]			[illegible]

[illegible] the necessary inform[illegible] [illegible] —

[illegible]	[illegible]	Females	Total
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	24·60
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	13·49
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	5·38
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	2·20
[illegible]	[illegible]	1·21	1·24

[illegible] than one-twenty th[illegible] [illegible] that in the course of a[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] taken place in the quant[illegible] [illegible] to the spread of education. [illegible] in 1851 only 2,165,000 letter[illegible]

...ssed through the Australasian ...d increased to 238,253,200 and

... Post-cards.	Newspapers.
...165,000	2,150,000
...081,000	10,941,400
...435,300	17,252,700
80,791,700	43,802,000
184,694,900	95,879,700
238,253,200	166,165,400

...rs of letters and newspapers per head ... years mentioned :—

	Letters per Inhabitant.	Newspapers per Inhabitant.
... .	4·7	4·7
....	11·3	8·8
... ...	15·7	8·9
... ...	20·1	15·8
... ...	47·9	25·0
... ...	53·5	23·8

... letters per inhabitant was over eleven times, ... more than five times, larger than in 1851.

Public Libraries.

...ies public libraries have been established. The ... Melbourne and Sydney are splendid institutions, ... favourably with many of the libraries in European ... following table shows the number of libraries which ..., and the number of books belonging to them, for the ... which information is available :—

	No. of Libraries.	No. of Books.
...outh Wales	342	520,000
... ...	367	1,054,881
...sland	115	152,589
... Australia	158	276,451
...estern Australia	34	59,427
...mania	41	80,043
...ew Zealand	304	409,604
Australasia	1,361	2,552,995

...estern Australia there are 37 Agricultural Halls and 17 ... Institutes, which contain, approximately, 6,000 volumes. The ... Public Library in Perth, a Government institution, possesses ...olumes.

FOOD SUPPLY AND COST OF LIVING.

CONSIDERING the comparatively high rate of wages which prevail, food of all kinds is fairly cheap in Australasia, and articles of diet which in other countries are almost within the category of luxuries are largely used even by the poorer classes. The average quantities of the principal articles of common diet annually consumed in the various colonies are given below :—

[illegible]	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.	[illegible]
[illegible]	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
[illegible]	326·3	390·6	336·1	390·0	558·5	448·1	450·1	375
[illegible]	[illegible]	7·2	17·5	10·8	21·3	6·0	8·6	8
[illegible]	[illegible]	7·6	3·9	5·2	9·4	16·5	10·1	6
[illegible]	194·8	258·7	164·6	138·8	167·1	495·3	494·8	268
[illegible]	103·0	92·3	129·9	98·8	114·3	84·9	88·9	96
[illegible]	[illegible]	7·2	7·7	7·7	10·0	6·1	6·3	7
[illegible]	0·5	0·8	0·5	0·9	0·9	0·3	0·4	0
[illegible]	4·1	3·3	4·1	2·6	6·6	3·8	4·5	3
[illegible]	18·3	12·3	11·4	11·9	27·8	12·3	19·0	15
[illegible]	42·0	40·6	37·8	27·0	17·8	18·3	32·4	30
[illegible]								
[illegible]	162·7	126·2	280·0	...	149·0	135·5	90·0	150
[illegible]	118·9	79·4	90·0	...	147·3	93·1	110·0	105
[illegible]	11·9	11·5	...	...	27·6	15·9	...	12

...while New South
...largely into
...103·0 lb.
...offee is not
...s only one-
...ustralia and
...lb. per head ;
...w so great as

...r head of popu-
...is probable that
...and 494·8 lb. in
South Wales and
...f potatoes in excess
...lt that a quantity
these circumstances,
...uantity entering into

...ed with exactness for
...fairly representing the
...consumed in the year
...o 101·2 lb. ; and of pork,
...ar that each inhabitant of
...arters of a pound of meat,
...ed for each member of the
...e persons. It is obvious,

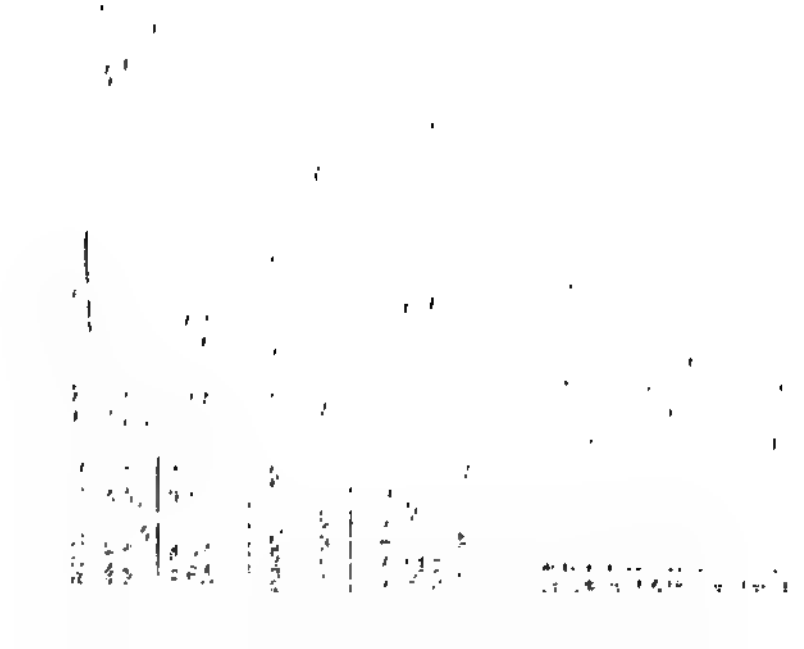
...alasian people, as shown by the
...ature of their diet. The con-
...64 lb., while in Australia it is
...nited States, a meat exporting
...re than half that of Australasia.
...t consumption per head for the

	Country	Per inhabitant.
		lb
	Holland	57
7	Sweden	62
1	Norway	78
51	Denmark	64
61	Switzerland	62
26	United States	150
71	Canada	90
65	Australasia	264

[illegible] of the food consumed, the lot of the [illegible] appears to be far more tolerable than that of [illegible] countries. This will be seen most clearly [illegible] particulars given in which, with the exception [illegible] Australasia, have been taken from Mul[illegible]

Country.	Lb. per Inhabitant.						Tea and Coffee Oz.
	Grain	Meat	Sugar	Butter and Cheese	Potatoes	Salt	
United Kingdom	378	109	75	19	380	40	91
France	540	77	20	8	570	20	66
Germany	550	64	18	8	1,020	17	78
Russia	635	51	11	5	180	19	6
Austria	460	61	18	7	560	14	[illegible]
Italy	400	26	8	4	50	[illegible]	[illegible]
Spain	480	71	6	3	20	17	6
Portugal	500	49	12	3	40	17	15
Sweden	500	62	22	11	500	[illegible]	112
Norway	440	78	13	14	500	[illegible]	144
Denmark	[illegible]	64	22	22	410	[illegible]	[illegible]
Holland	[illegible]	57	35	15	820	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	45	27	15	1,050		[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]		110
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]		[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]		[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

[illegible] the exception of [illegible] it will [illegible] being [illegible] by that [illegible] For the purpose of comparison [illegible] in his well known work on [illegible] has been reduced to the [illegible] In estimating the thermo-dynamic [illegible]



... in Mulhall's *Dictionary of* ...urable to Australasia were the ...s over females in these colonies

	Country	Proof gallons.
...	Portugal	3·00
...	Holland	4·00
...	Belgium	4·00
... 2	Denmark	5·00
... 80	Scandinavia	4 36
... 40	United States ...	2 65
2 85	Australasia	2·41

... was the average consumption for all the colonies ...—

	Spirits.		Wine.		Beer, &c.		Equivalent in Alcohol (proof) per inhabitant
	Total.	Per inhabitant.	Total.	Per inhabitant.	Total.	Per inhabitant.	
	galls.	galls.	galls.	galls.	galls.	galls.	galls.
	971,548	0 73	858,477	0 66	12,446,932	9 58	2 17
	838,900	0 72	2,254,256	1 94	13,704,562	11 76	2 83
	444,772	0 98	249,622	0 55	5,278,665	11 58	2 64
	141,057	0 30	815,633	2 26	3,224,124	8 95	2·23
...	268,363	1 85	155,062	1·07	3,453,343	23·84	5·24
	66,658	0 39	15,842	0 09	1,238,155	7 33	1·37
	470,132	0 65	104,043	0 14	5,900,349	8·18	1·75
.....	3,181,430	0 74	4,452,935	1·03	45,246,130	10·48	2·41

...gest consumption of spirits per inhabitant is in Western ... Queensland being second. Wine is used most freely in Vic... Australia, and Western Australia; and beer, in the colony ... Australasia. The average consumption of alcohol in all the ... the last three years amounted to 2 41 gallons of proof spirit ...nt, ranging from 5 24 gallons in Western Australia to 1·37 ... Tasmania. There was a great diminution in the quantity ... consumed in Australasia from 1889 to 1895; but since that ...ual increase is again observable, which is probably in great ... the improvement in the economic condition of the people. ...e average consumption was 2 82 gallons of proof alcohol; ...was 2 90 gallons, in 1891, 2·94 gallons, in 1892, 2·63 gallons; ...19 gallons; in 1894, 2·13 gallons; in 1895, 2·10 gallons; in

[illegible] as dwellings	18,117,000
[illegible]	5,584,000
[illegible]	6,162,000
[illegible] lodging	7,634,000
[illegible] and nursing	4,775,000
[illegible] not including State [illegible]	2,970,000
[illegible]	3,494,000
[illegible]	2,528,000
[illegible] to earning the [illegible]	904,000
[illegible]	2,309,000
[illegible] elsewhere	6,328,000
[illegible]	3,998,000
	£162,259,000

[illegible] expenditure per inhabitant in th[illegible] [illegible] as follows:—

[illegible]	Country.	Expend[illegible] per Inhabit[illegible]	
		£	s.
[illegible]	Norway	19	0
[illegible]	Denmark	28	11
[illegible]	Holland	20	17
[illegible]	Belgium	25	8
[illegible]	Switzerland	18	0
[illegible]	United States	32	16
[illegible]	Canada	23	6
[illegible]	Australasia	36	19

[illegible] a partial view of the questi[illegible]

for the year
ent

	7
	2
	5
1	3
1	4
11	0
19	5
1	14 11

ead, was at
thus distri-

	Proportion Expenditure
	per cent.
	34·6
	8 1
	13 9
	11 2
	1·4
	30·8
	100·0

Queensland) where there
re was probably higher,
es.
living are much the same
ily be incorrect to assume
Australasia is equal to that
on on the New South Wales
crease for others, such as the

1896, 2·33 gallons; in 1897, 2·41 gallons; in 1898, in 1899, 2·41 gallons. Part of the increased consum compared with the preceding year, must be set down was for the first time possible in that year to cal Australian consumption exactly.

Several descriptions of Australian wines have 30 per cent. of proof spirit, while from analyses w it would appear that the strength of these wines from 24 to 37 per cent. of spirit. Imported b per cent. to 15·42 per cent. in the case of E per cent. to 11·76 per cent. of proof spirit in manufacture varied according to the make fro being slightly below 13·5 per cent. Four of th spirits, and five make wine, while beer is bre and as the locally-made article may be subject federation than the imported article, the averag manufactured spirits, wine, and beer for the estimated, and will be found in the following

State.	Spirits.		
	Total.	Per inhabitant.	To
	galls.	galls.	
New South Wales.....	6,428	0·005	
Victoria	189,231	0·16	2,2
Queensland	59,409	0·13	
South Australia	23,141	0·06	
Western Australia.....	.....	...	
Tasmania	.....	..	
New Zealand	... .	...	
Australasia	278,209	0·06	

If the figures in this table be subtr the preceding page the consumption

Cost of

Sufficient data are not available t the cost of living in all the colonies estimate can be arrived at for New estimate was made of the yearly e colony, and it was found that it a the following years there were a s the consumption of articles of lu 1894 brought out a total some l a material improvement has, h

...ear is assumed to
...ndays:

...ngs
...ma.
...od
...vs.
...27
...42
148
156
152
153
154
177
136
143
108
138
130
135
76
97
112

...th the object of showing
...by the general fall in the
...eight years. The figures
...ay be accepted as also indi-
...sition in which the other
...to this matter. The total
...es is greatly affected by the
... raw produce, of which, in the
...d coal are the most important.
... of domestic exports of that
...nning with 1860. In order to
...al articles of domestic produce
...f 1899 have been applied to the
...and the result has been compared
... level of the year being found by
...ue which would have been obtained
...he average for 1899 is assumed to be
...umbers of the other years being as
...ther facilitate comparison of different
...ars 1870–74 has been assumed to be
...ars have been adjusted to that basis
...exports, only articles of insignificant

LAND AND SETTLEMENT.

ach of the seven colonies of Australasia a different system has en adopted to secure the settlement of an industrial population he Crown lands, the conditions upon which land may be acquired of a more or less liberal nature according to the circumstances in a colony has found itself placed. The legislation of Victoria, land, and Tasmania, which at one time formed part of New South bears a strong resemblance to that of the mother colony, practi he same form of conditional occupation with deferred payments n existence in all four provinces. In the other colonies, however, fluence of New South Wales was not so directly felt, and new ments were made. South Australia, for instance, was originally upon the Wakefield system—alike remarkable for its originality failure. In Western Australia and New Zealand, under pres- a different set of circumstances, settlement was effected by ion of a novel character. An attempt is made here to give a ion of the land laws of the colonies, although the radical s which are constantly being made render the task of giving ceable account of the various systems a somewhat difficult During the past seven years, numerous Acts affecting State ave been placed in the statute book, and, at the date of the tion of this volume, New South Wales, Victoria, and Tasmania plate amending legislation, so that it is impossible to say how e information given in this chapter can be taken as representing st phases of land legislation in Australasia.

New South Wales.

the progress and development of the colony, the land laws of outh Wales have naturally undergone considerable alteration. earliest period alienation was effected by grants, orders, and ions, the power of disposal resting solely with the Governor. ust, 1831, the principle of sale by auction was introduced, the m price for country lands being fixed at 5s. per acre. This was to 12s. in 1839, and to 20s. in 1843, power being given atter year to select at the upset price country portions for which as not forthcoming at auction, or upon which the deposit paid ime of sale had been forfeited. This was the first appearance of ciple of selection in the laws of the colony, but it was limited which had been surveyed for sale by auction.

iscovery of gold in 1851, and the consequent rush of population ralia, greatly altered the conditions of colonisation. As the

interest in gold digging declined, so did the desire for settlement on the land increase, and the question had to be dealt with in an entirely new spirit, to meet the wants of the class of immigrants desirous of being placed upon the soil. The agitation which thus sprang up resulted in the passing of the Crown Lands Act of 1861, under the leadership of Sir John Robertson. This measure was designed to secure the establishment of an agricultural population side by side with the pastoral tenants. With this object in view an entirely new principle was introduced — that of free selection in limited areas before survey, coupled with conditions of residence and improvement—and country lands were sold at £1 per acre, payable by annual instalments carrying interest.

The occupation of waste lands for pastoral purposes was at first allowed under a system of yearly licenses. Any person could apply for such a license, the extent of the run which it was desired to occupy being limited only by the boundaries of the surrounding stations. The fee was fixed at £10 per annum for a section of 25 square miles, with £2 10s. for every additional 5 square miles. This system of yearly licenses was succeeded by one under which the squatter was given a term of tenure, the fee payable being calculated upon the stock carrying capacity instead of upon the area of the run. Still another system was inaugurated by the Occupation Act of 1861, the period of tenure being limited to five years in all but first-class settled districts, and the whole of the pastoral leases left open to the operations of the free selectors. But such evils were found to result from this system that in 1884, in 1889, and again in 1895, Parliament was led to adopt amendments which are now in force, and which, while maintaining the principle of selection before survey, aim at giving fixity of tenure to the pastoral lessee and obtaining a larger rental from the public lands, while at the same time securing land to *bonâ-fide* settlers on terms and conditions within the reach of all.

For the purposes of land administration, the colony is split up into three divisions, each of which is subdivided into land districts. One or more of these land districts form a local division, the administration of which is entrusted to a Local Land Board, comprising a chairman and not more than two assessors. The decisions of these Local Land Boards may be appealed against to the Land Appeal Court. This Court is composed of a President and two members appointed by the Executive, and its decisions in matters of administration have the force of judgments of the Supreme Court; but whenever questions of law become involved, a case may be submitted to the Supreme Court upon the written request of the parties interested, or by the Land Appeal Court of its own initiative. The judgment given in the appeal is final.

Under the Acts at present in force, land may be acquired by the following method: (1) By conditional and additional conditional purchase with residence, (2) by conditional purchase without residence, (3) the preferent right of purchase attached to conditional leases, (4)

rovement purchases on gold-fields; (5) by auction sales; (6) by after tion sales; (7) by special sales without competition, and (8) by estead selection.

he maximum area which may be conditionally purchased differs in eastern and central divisions. In the western division land can only occupied under lease, or alienated by conditional purchase within ial areas, by auction or special sale, or by homestead selection.

Eastern Division.

he conditions for the purchase and occupation of Crown lands are e restricted in the eastern division than in the central and western sions. Nevertheless, any person above the age of 16 years may, upon Crown lands not specially exempted, select an area of 40 to 640 s, together with a lease of contiguous land not exceeding thrice the area he conditional purchase. The combined area of purchase and lease t not, however, exceed 1,280 acres. The price demanded is £1 per of which 2s. must be deposited when application is made, and the nce, together with interest at the rate of 4 per cent., paid by instal t of 1s. per acre per annum. Payment of instalments commences at nd of the third year, and after the expiry of the period of enforced idence the balance may be paid in one sum at any time. The ter must reside on his selection for a period of ten years, and in three years erect a substantial fence around the land; in some s, however, other permanent improvements are allowed in lieu of ing. He is restricted to one selection during his lifetime; but after expiry of the residential period he may purchase additional areas ntiguous to his original purchase up to the maximum area, or he may chase his conditional leasehold. In such a case, however, he must nd his period of residence, and enclose his additional purchase. rried women judicially separated may select in their own right; and ers taking up lands adjoining the selection of their parents may fulfil condition of residence under the paternal roof until the age of 21 in ase of males and 24 in that of females.

A conditional leasehold, in conjunction with a selection, may be held for ten years. The rental is fixed by the Land Board. The leasehold to be enclosed within three years; one fence, however, may enclose h the conditional purchase and the lease. A lease may at any time converted into a purchase. The term of residence on the conditional chase and leasehold must aggregate ten years from the date of applica-

When land is conditionally purchased without residence, the maxi- area is limited to 320 acres, and no conditional lease is granted. selection must be enclosed within twelve months after survey, within five years additional improvements must be made to the ue of £1 per acre. The price demanded is £2 per acre, and the rest and instalments payable are twice as high as those required in case of an ordinary conditional purchase. No person under 21 years

of age may select land on non residential conditions; and anyone takes advantage of the provisions permitting the acquirement of a ditional purchase without residence is not allowed to make any conditional purchase.

Special areas may be thrown open to selection under special tions. The price is not less than £1 10s. per acre, and the maxi area which may be taken up is 320 acres. Non resident selector charged double the rates payable by those who reside on the land.

The capital value of conditional purchases and conditional l applied for prior to the 30th December, 1899, and held *bonâ fide* fo applicant's sole use and benefit may be the subject of reappraise up to an area, sufficient, in the opinion of the Local Land Boar enable him to maintain a home thereon, provided the application th for is lodged prior to the 30th December, 1901.

Central Division.

In the central division land may be conditionally purchased on t as to residence, fencing, improvements, price, and mode of payn similar to those which govern selection in the eastern division. maximum area which may be selected is 2,560 acres, and a conditi lease in the proportion granted in the eastern division may be secu but the aggregate area of both selection and lease must not ex 2,560 acres. The area which may be purchased without residence, the conditions in regard thereto, are the same as in the eastern divi Within special areas the maximum extent of a selection has been at 640 acres.

Western Division.

The western division embraces an area of 79,970,000 acres, wat entirely by the Darling River. This part of the colony is essen devoted to pastoral pursuits. Conditional purchases, except in spe areas, are not allowed, but permanent pastoral settlement is encoura under homestead lease, which may be obtained for a term of twenty-e years within resumed areas or upon vacant lands. The minimum obtainable is 2,560 acres, and the maximum, 10,240 acres. A depos 1d. per acre must be lodged with the application. The lessee is requ to reside upon the land for six months during each of the first years. The whole area must be fenced in within two years, unless Land Board allow an exemption in respect of a natural or other bo ary. Tenant right in improvements is secured to the outgoing le who may, during the last year of the term, convert into a homest selection 640 acres on which his dwelling house is erected.

Homestead Selection.

Among the special features of the Act of 1895 was the introduc of the principle of classification and measurement of lands pri selection. Under this system suitable land is set apart and rend

available for the purposes of the selector. The appropriation of areas for homestead selection is another prominent feature of the Act. The tenure of such a selection is freehold, subject to perpetual residence and perpetual rent, and the construction of a dwelling-house at a cost of not less than £220. Six months' rent and part of the survey fee must be lodged when application is made. Until the grant issues, the rent is fixed at 1½ per cent. on the capital value of the land, afterwards, it is raised to 2½ per cent., and the selection is subject to reappraisement every ten years. Provided an application is made before the 31st December, 1900, the capital value of homestead selections applied for on or before 29th December, 1899, may be reappraised. In cases where the application for the homestead selection is of a subsequent date, reappraisement may be made before the selection is confirmed, or within twelve months after, but not later. Tenant right in improvements is secured, and the holding may be so protected that it cannot by any legal procedure, or under any circumstances, be wrested from the selector.

Settlement Leases.

Another departure under the Act referred to is the provision for settlement leases for agricultural and grazing purposes. Under this form of tenancy, lands gazetted in any division as available for settlement lease are obtainable on application, accompanied by a deposit consisting of six months' rent and survey fee. Of agricultural land the maximum area which may thus be taken up is 1,280 acres, and of grazing land 10,240 acres. The lease is issued for a period of twenty-eight years, and the conditions which attach to it are that the lessee shall reside on the land throughout the term, and fence it in during the first five years. Provided an application is made before the 31st December, 1900, the capital value of settlement leases applied for on or before the 29th December, 1899, may be reappraised. In cases where the application for the settlement lease is of a subsequent date, reappraisement may be made before the lease is confirmed, or within twelve months after, but not later. Tenant-right in improvements is secured to the outgoing lessee, who may, during the last year of the term, convert a portion not exceeding 1,280 acres into a homestead selection.

Scrub and Inferior Lands.

The principle of improvement leases secures, in any division, the occupation of scrub or inferior lands that would otherwise remain unoccupied. The term for which such a lease is issued is twenty-eight years, and the rent is determined according to the circumstances of each case, the object being to secure the profitable occupation of otherwise valueless lands. The maximum area obtainable is 20,480 acres. The outgoing lessee has tenant-right in improvements, and may, during the last year of the term of his lease, convert into a homestead selection 640 acres on which his dwelling-house is erected.

Pastoral and other Leases.

Under the Act of 1884 pastoral leases were surrendered to Crown, and divided into two equal parts. One of these parts returned to the lessee under an indefeasible lease for a fixed of years the other half, called the resumed area, might be under an annual occupation license, but was always open to select by conditional purchase in the eastern and central divisions, and lease in the western division. Under the Act of [illegible] pastoral leases in the western division was fixed [illegible] years. In the central division a pastoral lease ex[illegible] years. In certain cases a further extension ranging up to [illegible] years, by virtue of improvements effected, be[illegible] power to further extend the term of [illegible] a pastoral holding where a portion of [illegible] for the purpose of settlement. Tenant [illegible] with the consent of the Crown is secured to [illegible] in the western division he may, during the last [illegible] to a homestead selection 640 acres on which [illegible] selected. When application is made for an occupa[illegible] leasehold area, a license fee, equal in amo[illegible] payable as rent, must be lodged as a deposit [illegible] to pastoral and homestead leases, special leases [illegible] are granted of scrub lands, snow lands that is [illegible] snow during a part of the year, inferior lands [illegible] land required for the protection of artesian wells. An[illegible] pastoral purposes, and residential leases on gold and m[illegible] are also granted, and special leases are allowed in certain ca[illegible]

Auction Sales.

[illegible] sales to the extent of not more than 200,000 acres in [illegible] are permitted. The upset price is fixed by the Minister [illegible] For town lands it must not be less than £8 per acre; [illegible] suburban lands, £2 10s., and for country lands, £1 7s. Special to[illegible] can be made for the purchase of land on gold-fields, and for rural [illegible] workers.

Labour Settlements.

In the middle of 1893 an Act was passed to establish and regu[illegible] labour settlements on Crown Lands, following the example set by [illegible] Zealand, and imitated by several other colonies. Under this Act [illegible] Minister may set apart certain areas for the purpose of establish[illegible] labour settlements. A settlement is placed under the control o[illegible] Board, which enrols such persons as it may think fit to become mem[illegible] The settlement makes regulations concerning the work to be do[illegible] apportions the work among the members, and equitably distri[illegible] wages, profits, and emoluments after providing for the cost of [illegible] maintenance of the members. Any trade or industry may be c[illegible] carried on by the Board, and the profits apportioned among the enro[illegible]

members. A Board is constituted as a corporate body, with perpetual succession and a common seal, and the land is leased to the Board as such, in trust for the members of the settlement, for a period of ninety-eight years, with right of renewal for a like term.

When a Board has enrolled such a number of persons as the Minister for Lands may approve, it may apply for monetary assistance on behalf of the members of the settlement. The Minister has power to grant an amount not exceeding £25 for each enrolled member who is the head of a family dependent upon him; £20 for each married person without a family; and £15 for each unmarried person. On the expiration of four years from the commencement of the lease, and at the end of each year following, 8 per cent. of the total sum paid to the Board becomes a charge on its revenues, until the total amount advanced, with interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, has been repaid.

VICTORIA.

During the earlier period of the colonisation of Victoria, then known as the District of Port Phillip, in New South Wales, the alienation of Crown lands was regulated by the Orders in Council of the mother colony, to which reference has already been made. In the year 1840, however, the upset price of country lands, which in New South Wales was limited to 12s. per acre, was specially raised to 20s. in the District of Port Phillip. The Orders in Council continued in force until 1860, when the system of free selection of surveyed country lands was inaugurated, the uniform upset price being fixed at £1 per acre. No condition was required to be fulfilled by the selector other than that of making a cash payment for the whole of his purchase—or for one-half only, the other half being occupied at a yearly rental of 1s. per acre, with right of purchase at the original price. In 1862 a new Act was passed. Large agricultural areas were proclaimed, within which land could be selected at a uniform price of £1 per acre. Modifications were introduced in the mode of payment; the maximum area which could be acquired by one person was limited to 640 acres; and it was stipulated that certain improvements should be effected or part of the land placed in cultivation. This Act was amended in 1865, when the principle was introduced of leasing Crown lands within agricultural areas, with right of purchase after the fulfilment of certain conditions as to residence and improvements; and a new provision was added to meet the demand for land adjacent to gold-fields.

The legislation in force was, however, superseded by the Land Act of 1869 and the Pastoral Act of the same year. Until that time the free selection system in the colony had been limited to certain lands proclaimed within agricultural areas, and to allotments previously surveyed, thus avoiding the conflict which was then beginning to take place in New South Wales between the selector and the pastoralist. Under the stress of a sudden increase in the demand for land, arising from the

enormous immigration into Victoria which had followed the discov[illegible] of gold, and the necessity for the people finding other means of emp[illegible]ment, and other and more permanent sources of income, the Victo[illegible] Legislature adopted the system in vogue in the neighbouring colo[illegible] with modifications to suit the local conditions. The Act of 1869, wh[illegible] was amended in 1878, was further amended in 1884, the main tende[illegible] of the latter amendment being towards the restriction of the furt[illegible] alienation of the public estate by limiting the area which might be s[illegible] by auction, and substituting for the existing method of selecting a[illegible]cultural land a system of leasing in certain defined areas, and at t[illegible] same time conserving to the lessee the privilege of acquiring from [illegible] leasehold the fee-simple of 320 acres under the system of deferred p[illegible]ments. A portion of the public domain known as the "Mallee Scrub" comprising some 11½ million acres [illegible] partly covered with vario[illegible] species of stunted trees, was separately dealt with by the Mallee Pasto[illegible] Leases Act of 1883. The [illegible] of 1869, and the spe[illegible] [illegible] modified by the Acts of 18[illegible] [illegible]

The Land Act of [illegible] is [illegible] as to future selections [illegible] rent, the option of convert[illegible] [illegible] and of surrendering part [illegible] for the balance of their [illegible] [illegible] thereunder by the most [illegible]

[illegible] the colony is divided in[illegible] [illegible] and in each district the[illegible] [illegible] land officers. As occ[illegible] [illegible] to deal with applicati[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] the following classes [illegible] [illegible] grazing lands [illegible] [illegible] reclaimed lands [illegible] [illegible] reclaimed lan[illegible] [illegible] reserves, and wa[illegible] [illegible] of lands within [illegible] [illegible] recognised that [illegible] [illegible] Land Classification Boards [illegible] [illegible] who will be offi[illegible] [illegible] Land may [illegible] [illegible] of pastoral la[illegible] [illegible] and not superior [illegible] [illegible] by the lessee of [illegible] [illegible] an agricultural [illegible] [illegible] lease of the allotment in lieu of a [illegible] [illegible] an agricultural allotment on the surren[illegible] [illegible] in its stead a perpetual lease [illegible] [illegible] a mallee allotment, eligible to select an agricultural [illegible]

ment thereout, obtaining a perpetual lease instead of a license: (5) by perpetual leases of any Crown lands available as agricultural or grazing allotments, or mallee lands available as agricultural allotments, or swamp, or reclaimed lands, (6) by purchase at auction of town or country lands within specified areas: (7) by purchase at auction of detached portions of Crown lands of an area not exceeding 50 acres; (8) by the holder of a residential agricultural allotment under license within mallee territory, or (9) by farm allotment under conditional purchase lease, within areas required for the purpose of closer settlement.

Pastoral Lands.

Pastoral leases are granted to the person first lodging an application after public notice has been given that the land is available, and expire on 29th December, 1909. The maximum area is 40,000 acres, and the minimum, 1,280 acres. Should more than one application be lodged, the right to a lease is sold by public auction, after at least one month's notice has been given in the *Government Gazette*, and the highest bidder by way of premium is, on payment of same, entitled to the lease. A pastoral lessee must pay rent in advance every six months, he can not assign, sublet, or subdivide without the consent of the Board in writing; he must destroy all vermin and noxious growths, and keep in good condition all improvements on the land, and he must not destroy existing timber, except for fencing purposes or for building on the land, without the Board's consent. The Crown has the right to resume any portion of the area required for any railway or public purposes, and may grant licenses to enter on the land to obtain timber, stone, earth, &c. The right is reserved to other pastoral lessees to pass over the area, and the Governor may at any time by proclamation grant to the public the use of any track leading to a public road or track. The lessee is also required to erect swing gates where there is a fence across any track required by any other pastoral lessee or the public. Upon compliance with all conditions the lessee may select 200 acres of first-class, or 320 acres of second class, or 640 acres of third-class land, as a homestead. Upon the expiration of a lease the lessee is entitled to payment from an incoming tenant for all fences, wells, reservoirs, tanks, and dams; but such payment must not exceed 2s. 6d. an acre—and all other improvements revert to the Crown.

Agricultural and Grazing Lands. Grazing Areas.

Agricultural and grazing lands are leased in "grazing areas" of first, second, or third-class land, to any person of the age of 18 years, for any term of years expiring not later than 29th December, 1920. No lease can be granted for more than 200 acres of first-class, or 640 of second-class, or 1,280 acres of third-class land: but the lease may comprise two or more "grazing areas," provided the total acreage does not exceed the maximum limit of any class. The rent is fixed

at 3d. per acre for first-class, 2d. per acre for second-class, [illegible] acre for third-class lands; but an additional rent of 4 p[illegible] annum on the capital value of any substantial and permane[illegible] ments on the "grazing area" at the date of the commence[illegible] lease is imposed. On the expiration of the lease the incom[illegible] is required to pay to the late lessee the value of all imp[illegible] effected during the currency of the lease, calculated to [illegible] capacity for carrying sheep or cattle; but the sum to be pai[illegible] [illegible] must not be more than 10s. per [illegible] "grazing area" of first-class, or 7s. 6d. per acre if second-[illegible] [illegible] land. All other improvements revert[illegible] [illegible] provided for in the lease of th[illegible] [illegible] half-yearly in advance, and the le[illegible] [illegible] without the consent of the Boa[illegible] [illegible] growths and keep in good o[illegible] [illegible] The lessee cannot ring or [illegible] [illegible] fencing, or building, or domestic [illegible] [illegible] thereon, without the consent of [illegible] [illegible] land with a fence and keep it in g[illegible] [illegible] possession at any time of any of the [illegible] [illegible] or mining purposes, or for [illegible] [illegible] industrial purposes, on payment of [illegible] [illegible] lessee of a "grazing area" and [illegible] [illegible] of ingress, egress, and regress t[illegible] [illegible] from, and to any public road [illegible] [illegible] of the lease, may, if the "gra[illegible] [illegible] not more than 200 acres the[illegible] [illegible] second-class land, an "agricul[illegible] [illegible] third-class land a "grazing [illegible] [illegible] "grazing area" in respect of wh[illegible] [illegible] sufficiently fulfilled the [illegible] [illegible] any part of hi[illegible] [illegible] "grazing area" lease of such surren[illegible] [illegible] any eligible child, without p[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] *Allotments.*

[illegible] any person of the age o[illegible] [illegible] under the Land Acts, or w[illegible] [illegible] any part thereof an age[illegible] [illegible] who has not at any ti[illegible] [illegible] other person to acquire b[illegible] [illegible] interest therein to occupy an "a[illegible] [illegible] aggregate 200 acres of f[illegible] [illegible] land. The period of license is six [illegible] [illegible] for first-class and 4½d. per acre for [illegible] [illegible] half-yearly in advance. The licensee can[illegible]

nster, or sublet; he must enclose the land with a fence and keep it repair, and he must effect substantial and permanent improvements the value of 20s. per acre, or fractional part of an acre, where the d is first-class, and 15s. an acre, or fractional part of an acre, where land is second-class, during the currency of the license. The licensee st enter into occupation within twelve months from the issue of the nse, and occupy the agricultural allotment for not less than five rs during its currency. If a licensee satisfactorily prove that the ne of his family is situate upon the land held by him under idential license, the Board may consent, for a specified period, to stitutes occupation by the wife or any stated child over the age of years; or, if he has no wife or child, by the father or mother of the nsee, provided he or she is dependent on him for support. A licensee y, in each and every year of the term of residence on residential nse, apply to the land officer of the district to register a written ice of intention to absent himself from the agricultural allotment a period or periods not exceeding on the whole three months, and absence between the registered dates is not deemed a breach of the ition of occupation. If the conditions be complied with, the licensee entitled at any time within twelve months after six years from the mencement of the license to obtain a Crown grant upon payment the difference between the amount of rent actually paid and the re sum payable for the purchase of the land, or obtain a lease for a n of fourteen years. The Crown may resume any portion of the d during the currency of the license that may be required for public mining purposes, subject to the repayment of moneys paid by the nsee to the Crown or expended by him on the land resumed.

Non-residential licenses for a period of six years are issued to persons arly qualified on identical conditions, with the exception that the ual rent is double that for residence areas, and the improvements be effected are 6s. 8d. per acre, or fractional part of an acre each r of the license on first-class land, and 5s. per acre, or fractional of an acre for each of the first three years of the license in respect econd-class lands.

The licensee or lessee of an agricultural allotment may surrender his nse or lease, and in its stead obtain a perpetual lease. The rent yable therefor to 29th December, 1909, is based upon the unimproved value of the land, which is assumed at £1 per acre if first-class at 5s. per acre if second-class land; thereafter the rent is fixed by the rd at the end of every successive ten years. The holder of an cultural allotment who desires to establish and cultivate a vineyard, garden, or orchard may during the term of his license or lease, payment of the difference between the amount of rent actually and the entire purchase-money payable in respect of any part, not less than 20 acres, of his allotment, obtain a Crown grant of such subject to such covenants, conditions, exceptions, and reservations the Governor may direct.

Grazing Allotments

Licenses, either residential or non-residential, are issued qualified in a similar manner to those entitled to hold allotments, to occupy an allotment of third-class land no 640 acres. The period of license is six years, and the rent per acre, half-yearly in advance. In the case of a reside the licensee must enter into occupation within twelve mont issue of the license, and occupy the grazing allotment for n five years during the currency of the license. If a licensee a prove that the home of his family is situate upon the land under residential license, the Board may consent, for a spec to substituted occupation by the wife or any stated child of 18 years, or, if he has no wife or child, by the father o the licensee, provided he or she is dependent on him for a licensee may, in each and every year of the term of re residential license, apply to the land officer of the district written notice of intention to absent himself from the grazin for a period or periods not exceeding on the whole three n any absence between the registered dates is not deemed a b [illegible] of occupation. Substantial and permanent im must be effected to the value of 10s per acre, or fractional acre, in respect of residential licenses, and 3s. 4d. each year three years for each acre, or fractional part of an acre, in non-residential licenses. The licensee cannot assign, transfer he is required to keep the land free from vermin, and must land and keep the fence in repair. The Crown may resume of the land during the currency of the license that may be [illegible] or mining purposes subject to the repayment of mon the licensee to the Crown or expended by him on the land re the conditions be complied with the licensee is entitled a within twelve months after six years from the commencem license to obtain a Crown grant upon payment of the differen the amount of rent actually paid and the entire sum pay [illegible] the land, or obtain a lease for a term of four The owner of a grazing allotment, who desires to establish an [illegible] hop-garden, or orchard, may during the term of [illegible], upon payment of the difference between the amo [illegible] paid and the entire purchase-money payable in rea part, not exceeding 20 acres, of his allotment, obtain a C of such part subject to such covenants, conditions, excep [illegible] as the Governor may direct. Any person who to select a grazing allotment may apply for a perpetual l allotment in lieu of the license.

Perpetual Leases

Perpetual leases may be granted over any Crown lands a agricultural or grazing allotments, over mallee lands availa

ultural allotments; and over swamp or reclaimed lands. They may also be granted to holders of grazing areas who are entitled to select thereout an agricultural or grazing allotment; to holders of mallee allotments or parts thereof eligible to select an agricultural allotment; to holders of permits or leases to occupy allotments on swamp lands; and to village settlers on other than swamp lands who may desire to surrender the same and obtain perpetual leases in lieu thereof. No person is allowed to hold by transfer or otherwise more than 600 acres of first-class or 960 acres of second class, or 1,920 acres of third-class land outside the mallee country. The rent on every perpetual lease, outside mallee and swamp or reclaimed lands, to 29th December, 1909, is $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. on the unimproved value of the land, which is deemed to be £1 per acre for first-class, 15s. per acre for second class, and 10s. per acre for third class land. For every successive period of ten years the value, exclusive of all improvements made by the lessee, will be such amount as may be fixed by the Board and the annual rent will be $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. on such value. The rent must be paid yearly in advance. The lessee must destroy all vermin within two years, and keep the land free from vermin and noxious growths; he must enclose the land within six years, or sooner if called upon under the Fences Act, 1890; he must reside for six months on the land, or within 5 miles thereof during the first year, and eight months during each of the four following years. In the event of the cultivation by the lessee of one fourth of the area during the first two years and one half before the end of the fourth year the residence covenant ceases to operate. Improvements must be effected to the value of 10s. per acre on first-class, 7s. 6d. per acre on second-class, and 5s. per acre on third class land before the end of the third year, and further improvements to a like value before the end of the sixth year of the lease. The lessee may not transfer, assign, mortgage, sublet, or part with the whole or any portion of the area within six years; and any portion required for railways, roads, mining, or other public purposes may be resumed on payment for non-removable improvements thereon or cost of removable improvements. A perpetual lessee whose rent is not in arrear may surrender his lease within six months after 29th December, 1909, or within six months after any successive period of ten years, with a view of obtaining an agricultural or grazing allotment license either residential or non-residential. The improvements made will be credited to the licensee, and should there be a mortgage on the perpetual lease, the licensee may, after the issue of the license, give to the mortgagee a license lien on his improvements to the full amount due on the mortgage at the time of surrender.

Lands within Auriferous Areas.

Licenses to reside on or cultivate lands comprised within an auriferous area may be granted for a period not exceeding one year, and for areas not exceeding 20 acres, at an annual license fee of 1s. per acre. No person can hold more than one license. The license is subject to

claimed lands that may be proclaimed as such in the *Government* ette. The lands are divided into allotments of an area not exceeding res, and may be leased for twenty-one years, or be leased under tual lease at a rental of 4 per cent. on the value of the land, or sed under conditional purchase lease, or be disposed of by sale at c auction, subject to general conditions of sale. Every lease for ty-one years, every perpetual lease, every conditional purchase and every contract of sale for an allotment of swamp or reclaimed contains the condition that the lessee or purchaser shall make tantial improvements on the land to the extent of 10s. per acre in of the first three years and keep open all canals and drains. The tion of residence is not obligatory in all cases. For determining ent on the upset price the Board will fix the value of each allot

Village settlers on swamp or reclaimed lands may surrender permits or leases, and acquire in place thereof perpetual leases or itional purchase leases. In the event of a perpetual lease being ed, the annual rent thereon till 29th December, 1909, will be cent. on the price of the land as fixed in the surrendered permit se, the improvements at time of surrender to be credited towards dance with conditions of new lease. In the event of a conditional hase lease being granted, the price to be paid will be that fixed in urrendered permit or lease, carrying interest at 4½ per cent. per m.

Lands enhanced in Value.

here Crown lands are enhanced in value by the proximity of way, or of waterworks for irrigation purposes, etc., the Governor powered to increase the minimum sum per acre for which such may be sold, as well as the minimum amount of rent or license by not less than one-eighth nor more than double the sum. But lands have been sold, leased, or licensed at an enhanced price, and orks by reason of which the extra payment has been demanded not been constructed within ten years from the date of the Order uncil fixing the enhanced price, the additional sum paid must be ned.

Forest Lands.

nd situated within the State forests, and timber and water reserves, ot be alienated, except as hereinafter provided; and the administra ot the Forest Domain of the Crown is placed in the hands of local st Boards, which are empowered to receive fees for licenses to cut move timber. Where any person has made his home, or the home family, for a period of five years on forest lands, whether per ntly reserved or not, and has effected thereon improvements of the of not less than £2 per acre, he may apply to purchase an area ceeding 10 acres at a price to be determined by appraisement; there be no mining or other valid objection a Crown grant may

Mallee Lands.

The territory known generally as the "Mallee" is situated in [illegible] north western district of the Colony, and comprises an area of [illegible] 10,000,000 acres. The mallee land bordering on the plain coun[illegible] mostly of a light chocolate and sandy loam character, and in its na[illegible] state is covered with mallee scrub, interspersed with plains li[illegible] timbered with box, oak, and pines. The scrub can be cleared [illegible] moderate expenditure, and the land is well adapted for wheat gro[illegible] The smaller areas are known as "mallee allotments," and the [illegible] areas, extending further north and where the soil is more sa[illegible] character, as "mallee blocks." The "blocks" are practically in [illegible] natural state, are many square miles in extent, and are used for pa[illegible] purposes only.

Mallee Blocks.

The "mallee blocks" are of various sizes. One portion of a [illegible] may be held for five years under an occupation license, and the [illegible] under lease for a period expiring not later than the 1st December, [illegible] The lease is granted for a period of twenty years. For the first [illegible] years the rent payable is at the rate of 2d. per head of sheep and 1[illegible] [illegible] on the land; for the second five years [illegible] [illegible] remainder of the term at an addi[illegible] [illegible] amount payable during the second p[illegible] [illegible] may the yearly rent be less than 2[illegible] [illegible] a square mile of land. Leases i[illegible] [illegible] have the rent fixed by the Board. [illegible] or cultivate any part without the co[illegible] [illegible] Works, he must destroy the vermin upo[illegible] [illegible] The Government retai[illegible] [illegible] giving due notice, compensati[illegible] [illegible] assessment. Licenses ma[illegible] [illegible] obtain timber, stone, earth, &c., [illegible] to any public road or track.

Mallee Allotments.

[illegible] are situated on the southern and eastern fr[illegible] [illegible] and have a maximum area of 20,000 acres, [illegible] expiring not later than 30th November, 1903. [illegible] of the lease of a mallee allotment by operation of [illegible] without the consent of the Board, and the lessee wit[illegible] [illegible] cannot execute any mortgage or lien thereon. The le[illegible] [illegible] within six months of the granting of the lease, to take [illegible] on the land or within 5 miles thereof, and to remain [illegible] at least six months in the first year, and nine months during ea[illegible] the next four years; or, instead, to cultivate at least one-fourth of [illegible] allotment within two years, and at least one-half before the end of [illegible] fourth year. In the event of the insolvency or death of the le[illegible]

dence is not obligatory on the assignee, executor, or administrator. hout the consent of the Board, the lessee cannot clear or cultivate part of his allotment, and not more than five crops in succession be raised, after which for one year the land must be allowed to lie w. A uniform rental of 1d. per acre per annum is now charged ll cases where the Board's consent has been obtained to clear and ivate.

is provided that the lessee may select out of his mallee allotment gricultural allotment not exceeding 640 acres, either under license erpetual lease. When this is done the remainder of the mallee ment may be resumed, compensation being awarded for improve- ts only. Should the lessee have actually resided on the land and roved the vermin thereon, the period of six years for which the ultural allotment license is issued may be so shortened as not to ed the length of such residence, conditionally on the payment of the se fees.

Agricultural Allotments under License or Perpetual Lease.

ny person of the age of 18 years may select 640 acres of first-class, 000 acres of second-class land out of any area made available as gricultural allotment under residential or non-residential license or etual lease. A similar concession is made to any holder of a mallee ment who may make application at any time before the 30th ember, 1903, to select out of his mallee allotment a similar area in manner. The period of residence attached to residential licenses e years. When the area is first-class land, the purchase money in for a residential license is £1 per acre, and the license is for a term x years, at a yearly rent of 1s. per acre; the improvements at the ration of the license must be of the value of £1 per acre. If all conditions be complied with, the licensee is entitled, at the expi- on of the license, to a lease for fourteen years at the same rent, or Crown grant at any time, on paying the difference between the ount paid and £1 per acre. If the applicant prefer, he may obtain ense at a reduced rental of 6d. per acre per annum for the term of ears, with a lease for thirty-four years at 6d. per acre yearly. hen the area is second-class land, the purchase money in full is 10s. acre, and the license is for a term of six years at a yearly rent of per acre, and the lease for fourteen years at the same rent, or a e may be issued, with conditions varied in these respects, that the shall be 3d. per acre yearly for six years, with a subsequent lease hirty-four years at the same rent. The improvements at the end the six years must be of the value of 10s per acre. A non-residential se on first-class land is granted for a term of six years at 1s. per acre annum, and the lease for a period of fourteen years at the same rent. provements to the value of 6s 8d. per acre must be made in each of ix years. The period of non-residential license on second-class land ix years, at an annual rent of 6d. per acre, and the lease is for

fourteen years at the same rent. Improvements to the value of an acre must be made during each of the first three years. Exc the purpose of building, fencing, or other improvements, the may not cut or remove any live pine, box, or red gum, land.

Perpetual leases of mallee country are issued, in areas not ex 1,920 acres, at a yearly rental not to exceed 2d. per acre December 1905, and thereafter as the Board may determine. T must be paid yearly in advance, and the lessee must destroy any on the land, and within two years have made a complete clear such pests, while during the remainder of his lease he must see t land is kept free from them. Within six months, the lessee mus on or within [illegible] miles of the land, and do so for a period of eight in each of the second, third, fourth, and fifth years. In the event lessee cultivating one-fourth of the area within two years, and [illegible] four years, the residence condition ceases to op

Vermin Districts.

[illegible] the Land Act of 1890 districts which are proclai [illegible] for the purpose of securing the extinction of [illegible] by local committees appointed by the [illegible] the lands. In order to secure the erec [illegible] a fencing rate may be levied, and the M [illegible] per cent. of the amount levied in vermin d [illegible] a vermin-proof fence between the [illegible] border.

Wattle Cultivation.

[illegible] was enacted having for its object the g [illegible] Crown lands for the cultivation of [illegible] exceeding twenty-one years, at a rent [illegible] the first seven years, 4d. per acre for the [illegible] per acre for the remainder of the term. [illegible] more than 1,000 acres; and the rent is payab [illegible] The lessee covenants not to assign, sublet, or [illegible] the consent of the Board of Land and Works [illegible] in repair during each of the first six years fol [illegible] the granting of the lease; to sow or plant wattle t [illegible] approved tannin producing trees or plants on at least o [illegible] and within six years to occupy the whole ar [illegible] manner. He must within two years enclose a third, [illegible] years two-thirds, and within four years the whole of th [illegible] and he is required to keep the fence in good repair, [illegible] destroy all vermin which may be upon the land. The lessee may [illegible] of his lease an agricultural or grazing allotment under lice perpetual lease.

Village Settlements.

r the Settlement on Lands Act of 1893 there may be set apart ropriated for the purposes of village communities any lands not d from the Crown, provided they are not auriferous or perman erved for any purpose. Such lands are surveyed into allotments 20 acres each, according to the quality of the soil and the a. Subject to certain restrictions, any person of the age of 18 ay obtain a permit to occupy a village community allotment for l not exceeding three years. The rent is merely nominal, but ns are laid down with the object of ensuring *bona fide* occupancy. expiration of the permit a lease may be obtained, provided the ns of the permissive occupancy have been fulfilled. The lease ted for a period of twenty years. The lessee must pay in , every half-year, rent equal to one-fortieth of what is regarded rice of the allotment, which is to be not less than £1 per acre. two years from the date of the lease he must have brought into ion not less than one-tenth, and within four years, one-fifth of ; and within six years, have effected substantial improvements manent character to the value of £1 for every acre leased. He so keep all improvements in good repair; and he cannot assign, , or sublet the land, or borrow money on the security of his lease the consent of the Board of Land and Works. He must reside ly on the land, and use it for agriculture, gardening, grazing, or ke purpose. Any person in occupation of an allotment under or lease may surrender the same, and acquire the land under a al lease, or a conditional purchase lease. In the event of the ing granted under perpetual lease, the rental thereon to 29th er, 1909, will be 250 per cent. on the price set out in the permit or lease; should the land be granted as a conditional e lease, the price to be paid is that fixed in the surrendered or lease carrying interest at 4½ per cent. per annum.

Homestead Associations.

s of similar lands to the foregoing may also be set apart and ated for occupation by members of associations or societies; but mation can remain in force for a longer period than three years se of a society, nor for more than six months in the case of an ion, after the survey and subdivision of the block; and land in ck not occupied or leased at the expiration of these periods unoccupied Crown land again. No block of land set apart for poses of associations or societies can exceed in area 2,000 acres. is subdivided into lots of not more than 50 acres each, and the of persons to be located in each block must not be less than one y 50 acres of its total area. A permissive occupancy of a section granted to any member of an association or a society for a period years. The rent is a nominal one, and after proof of fulfilment of ns a lease may be obtained by the member, provided he is of the

age of 18 years. The lessee covenants to pay the annual rent and th cost of survey; to repay all moneys advanced by the Board, to brin into cultivation within two years not less than one-tenth, and withi four years not less than one-fifth of the land; and within six years effect substantial improvements of a permanent character to the valu of £1 for every acre leased. He must also keep the improvements good repair, and he cannot assign, transfer, or sublet the land, borrow money upon it without the consent of the Board of Land an Works. He must personally reside on his section or its appurtenant township allotment, and use the land for agriculture, gardening, grazin dairying, or other like purpose. Adjoining to or within every bloc of land appropriated in this manner, an area of not more than 100 acre may be set apart for the purposes of a township, and the Board of Lan and Works may subdivide it into allotments not exceeding one acr in order to provide a township allotment for each homestead selection Power is reserved to alienate the fee-simple of those allotments no required for the purpose; and every settler may, within one year from the commencement of his permit or lease, obtain a lease of such an allotment, with the right to a Crown grant in fee on making the payment prescribed.

Labour Colonies

Areas of similar land, not exceeding 1,500 acres in extent, may also be set apart for the purpose of labour colonies, to be vested in five trustees appointed by the Governor. For the purpose of aiding the trustees provision is made whereby persons subscribing to the funds of such a colony may annually elect a committee of management, consisting of four members. The joint body (trustees and committee) is empowered on a day to be determined in each case by the Minister, to admit to such a colony any person who shall be entitled to such benefits as the rules of the colony may prescribe. The trustees and committee of each colony must establish and conduct the same, and they have all the powers and authority necessary to enable them to improve the position of the colony and make it self-supporting. They may establish and maintain any industry they please, and dispose of the proceeds thereof. A subsidy of £2 for every £1 received by the trustees and committee from public and private subscriptions is payable by the Government. The moneys received are to be disbursed in the payment of allowances for work to persons employed in the colony; in the construction and maintenance of necessary buildings; and in purchasing provisions, clothing, building materials, stock, seed, and agricultural implements.

Besides the foregoing provisions, there are numerous others, dealing with minor interests, which in a general statement of this kind it is not necessary to recapitulate.

Acquisition of Land for Closer Settlement.

The acquisition of private lands for the purpose of closer settlement is an entirely new feature in Victorian land legislation. The Board of

and Works may, subject to the approval of Parliament, purchase Crown, blocks of good agricultural private land in any farming The portion of the acquired land to be disposed of is to be ded into farm allotments of a value not exceeding £1,000 each, are to be available under conditional purchase lease. Any per the age of 21 years, who is not already the holder of land of the of £1,000, or who would not thereby become the holder of land ing such value, may be granted a farm under conditional pur- ase. The price of the land to be disposed of is to be so fixed over the cost of original purchase, cost of survey and subdivision, e of lands absorbed by roads and reserves, and the cost of g, dramming, fencing, or other improvements which the Board may rior to the disposal of the land as farm allotments. The pur money, with interest at 4½ per cent. per annum, must be paid by ree or a less number of half-yearly instalments. The con- l purchase lease may be for such a term of years (not exceeding ne and a-half) as may be agreed upon between the lessee and rd. The lease is subject to the following conditions:—Improve- to be effected to the value of 10s. an acre, or if the Board so nes, to the value of 10 per cent. of the purchase money, before l of the third year of the lease, and to the value of a further acre, or if the Board so determines, to the value of a further cent. of the purchase money before the end of the sixth year of e; personal residence by the lessee, or by his wife, or any child than 18 years of age, on the allotment for eight months during ar of the first six years; lessee not to transfer, assign, mortgage let within the first six years; and such other conditions and ts relating to mining, cultivation, vermin destruction and other as may be prescribed by regulation. Upon or at any time e expiration of the first six years of the lease, provided all ons have been complied with, the lessee may, on payment of the of the principal, acquire the fee-simple of his farm allotment.

QUEENSLAND.

and legislation of New South Wales in force on the date when reton Bay District was formed into the colony of Queensland, ace soon after that event to a new system of settlement, better l to the requirements of the newly constituted province. Follow a certain extent the lines adopted by their neighbours, the land legislators introduced into their regulations the principle of lection before survey, and of sales under the deferred payment Having to dispose of a vast territory which, not being endowed temperate a climate, had not the same attractions as the southern es, it was considered necessary to exercise greater liberality in the land than was shown to settlers in the other colonies. Large nd small prices were therefore features of Queensland land sales.

[illegible] were the provisions to facilitate the explo[illegible] [illegible] purposes of the vast interior country [illegible] 1869 led to the occupation by an energeti[illegible] [illegible] the whole of the waste lands of the provi[illegible] [illegible] of the resources of the colony, and the co[illegible] [illegible] necessitated later on a revision of the [illegible] [illegible] might be alienated or occupied: but alth[illegible] [illegible] has been to curtail the privileges of the pastora[illegible] [illegible] of the public estate by selection conditional an[illegible] [illegible] has been placed under enactments of a still mo[illegible] [illegible] those which existed in the earlier days. Unde[illegible] [illegible] Queensland has followed in the [illegible] [illegible] South Australia, and has granted to the [illegible] [illegible] possession of the soil. [illegible] [illegible] are based upon the legislation enac[illegible] [illegible] and its subsequent amendment[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] in the following manner:—(1) By co[illegible] [illegible] homesteads from 160 to 640 acres, [illegible] [illegible] for 160 acres to less than 15[illegible] [illegible] agricultural selections up to 1,280 acres, a[illegible] [illegible] the proclamation rendering the land avai[illegible] [illegible] in both cases to be personal or b[illegible] [illegible] at prices one-third greater th[illegible] [illegible] agricultural selections, the area being [illegible] [illegible] selection up to 20,000 a[illegible] [illegible] fourteen to twenty-eight yea[illegible] [illegible] the minimum; (4) by scr[illegible] [illegible] acres for a term of thir[illegible] [illegible] per acre, and (5) by [illegible] [illegible] per acre, suburb[illegible] [illegible] per acre for land ch[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] into Land [illegible] Lands Office and a[illegible] [illegible] for farms must be [illegible] form, and be s[illegible] [illegible] the Lands Office by [illegible] with the Survey [illegible] and sale of m[illegible] [illegible] available for selection [illegible] personal application. P[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] may be acquired fo[illegible] [illegible] years of age—married [illegible] separated or possess [illegible] as stated below.

Grazing Farms.

Areas of land already surveyed are available for selection as grazing farms over a great extent of territory within accessible distance of the coast. Intending settlers can obtain up to 20,000 acres on lease, for a term of fourteen, twenty-one, or twenty-eight years, at an annual rent varying according to the quality of the land, 1d. an acre being the minimum. This rent is subject to reassessment by the Land Board after the first seven years, and subsequently at intervals of seven years. The selector must first obtain an occupation license, which is not transferable, and which may be exchanged for a lease for the balance of the term of fourteen, twenty-one, or twenty-eight years as soon as the farm is enclosed with a substantial fence, which must be done within three years, or such extended time, not exceeding two years, as the Land Board may allow. The lease may be transferred or mortgaged after the expiration of five years from the commencement of the lease, and the farm may be subdivided, or, with the consent of the Land Board, sublet. The land must be continuously occupied by the lessee or his agent for the whole term of the lease, and cannot be made freehold. The Commissioner may issue a license to a group of two or more selectors, enabling any one of the selectors to perform the condition of occupation in respect of all of the selections as well as on his own behalf, but the number of selectors personally residing is not at any time to be less than half the whole number interested. One-fifth of the cost of survey, ranging from something like £30 for a farm of 2,560 acres to about £65 for 20,000 acres, subject to increase or decrease according to locality, must be paid with a year's rent when application is made for the farm, and the balance in equal instalments without interest.

Grazing Homesteads.

Lands available as grazing farms are also open for selection as grazing homesteads at the same rental and for the same term of lease. An application to select as a grazing homestead takes precedence of a simultaneous application to select the same land as a grazing farm. The conditions and other provisions mentioned in respect of grazing farms are applicable also to grazing homesteads, with the exception that during the first five years of the term of a grazing homestead the condition of occupation must be performed by the continuous personal residence of the selector on the land.

Agricultural Selections.

The more accessible lands near lines of railway, centres of population, or navigable waters, are set apart for agricultural farm selection in areas up to 1,280 acres. The period of license is five years, during which the selector must fence in the land, or expend an equivalent sum in effecting other substantial improvements. As soon as the improvement condition has been complied with, a lease is issued for a term of twenty years from the date of the license, with right of purchase at

n of cost of survey, on the same scale as for agricultural selection, be deposited with the first instalment of purchase money at the of application, the balance to be paid in equal annual instalments.

Scrub Selections.

nds which are entirely or extensively overgrown with scrub are ble for selection in four classes, determined by the extent of scrub. rea selected must not exceed 10,000 acres, and the term of lease is years, the rent ranging from a peppercorn per acre in the first five ½d. an acre for the next succeeding ten years, and 1d. per acre for remaining fifteen years in respect of lands in the first class, to a corn for the first twenty years, and 1d. per acre for the remaining ears in relation to those of the fourth class. During the period of under which the selector pays a peppercorn rent the whole of the must be cleared a proportionate area in each year and the land ed. Compensation is paid in respect of clearing on any land ed, but upon determination of the lease the clearing improvements to the Crown.

Auction Lands.

alienation in fee of allotments in towns is restricted to areas ng from 1 rood to 1 acre, at an upset price of £8 per acre; while pect of suburban lands, areas of 1 to 15 acres may be acquired 1 mile of town lands, and the limit is extended to 10 acres in to lands situated over 1 mile from such town lands, the upset being £2 per acre. In respect of country lands, the maximum that may be sold in any one year is limited to 150,000 acres, and set price is fixed at £1 per acre for land classed as agricultural, not less than 10s. per acre for any other. A deposit of 20 per cent. be paid at time of sale, and the balance, with deed, assurance, rvey fees, within one month thereof.

Co-operative Settlement.

Co-operative Communities Land Settlement Act of 1893 provides setting apart of a portion of Crown lands for the purposes of a or association of persons for co-operative land settlement, and the on annexed thereto is that the group shall consist of not less hirty persons, each of whom is eligible to apply for and hold der the provisions of the Crown Lands Act of 1884. It is e that the group shall be recognised by the Minister, and the the community must be deposited with him. None but natural naturalised subjects are eligible to become members of a group, person may be a member of more than one community. It is group to register itself under the Friendly Societies Act of d in such case certain provisions at law dealing with the overnment of the community become inoperative.

available for a co-operative community is set apart by proc- and cannot exceed in area more than 160 acres for each

Had not the discovery of great mineral resources occurred at an opportune time, the exodus into the eastern colonies of the immigrants diverted or attracted to South Australia would have emptied the province of its population, and considerably retarded the progress of a territory not inferior in natural resources to other portions of the Australian continent.

Steps were soon taken to modify the Wakefield system, but it was only in 1872 that an Act was passed more in conformity with the legislation of the neighbouring colonies, and giving to the poorer classes of the population a chance to settle upon the lands of the Crown under fair conditions. The Lands Act of 1872, adapted as it was to the needs of the time, gave way to other measures, and the regulations now in force are those of the Crown Lands Act of 1888, as amended in 1889, 1890, 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, and 1899.

General Provisions.

The law as it now stands gives power to the Government to alienate Crown lands in the following manner:—(1) By auction, town lands, Crown lands within hundreds, and special blocks may be alienated, but sales of country lands may be made at a price of less than 5s. per acre; a deposit of 20 per cent. is required at time of sale, the residue to be paid within one month therefrom; (2) by lease with right of purchase, the period of lease being twenty-one years, with option of renewal for a further period of twenty-one years, and right of purchase exercisable at any time after the expiration of the first six years of the term, at a price not less than 5s. per acre. The grant in fee simple of any land cannot be construed to convey any property in any mineral or mineral oil in or upon the land, the same being reserved by the Crown, although authority may be given to persons at any time to search for and remove any of the minerals reserved.

Leases with Right of Purchase.

No lands may be leased unless they have been surveyed; and the area which a lessee may at any one time hold with a right of purchase is restricted to 1,000 acres. No lease with right of purchase, or perpetual lease can be granted of lands of such value that the purchase money will exceed £5,000 unimproved value. The Land Boards are entrusted with the duty of classifying lands, and of fixing the area of blocks, the price and annual rent at which each block may be taken up on lease with right of purchase, and the annual rent at which such block may be taken up on perpetual lease. Applications must be made in writing to the Commissioner, and must cover a deposit equal to 20 per cent. of the capital rent of the block which it is desired to take up. All applications are dealt with by the Land Board, which has power to decide or to alter the boundaries of blocks, and to decide what price and rent shall be payable. A lessee must execute his lease and pay the balance of the first year's assessment and prescribed fees within

twenty-eight days after the acceptance of his application, has notified and the lease has issued, otherwise he forfeits the deposit and all rights to a lease of the land.

Leases with right of purchase are granted for a term of twenty years, with the right of renewal for a similar term. Purchase may be made at any time after the first six years. The price must not be less than 5s an acre.

The rent chargeable on a perpetual lease for the first fourteen years is fixed by the Land Board and notified in the *Government Gazette*, for every subsequent period of fourteen years a revaluation is made. Every lease contains a reservation to the Crown of all minerals, coal and mineral oils in or upon the land. The lessee undertakes to observe the following conditions:—(1) To pay rent annually; (2) to pay all taxes and other impositions; (3) to fence in the land within the first five years, and thereafter to keep the fences in repair; (4) to comply forthwith to destroy and to keep the land free from vermin; (5) to keep in good order and repair all improvements which are the property of the Crown; (6) to keep insured to their full value all buildings which are the property of the Crown; and (7) to give access to the land to persons holding mining licenses or mineral leases.

A pastoral lessee may surrender his lease for a perpetual lease when the unimproved value of the land comprised therein, together with that of all other lands held by him, does not exceed £5,000, or where, in the opinion of the Commissioner, the land is suitable only for pastoral purposes, and the carrying capacity thereof unimproved, and of all other lands held by the lessee under any tenure does not exceed 5,000 sheep. The annual rent of the perpetual lease in such case is to be determined by the Surveyor-General, subject to the approval of the Commissioner, according to the actual value, irrespective of the amount of the rent or purchase granted in respect thereof.

Sale of Lands.

All Crown lands within hundreds which have been offered for lease and not taken up, may be offered for sale at auction for cash within two years of the date on which they were first offered for lease. Such lands may be sold at auction for cash, and not upon credit or by private contract, the Commissioners fixing the upset price of both town and country lots offered, but no country lands may be sold for less than 5s per acre.

Pastoral Leases.

The administration of the law in respect of pastoral lands is controlled by a Pastoral Board consisting of three members, including the Surveyor-General. Legislation passed in 1899 provides that in future pastoral leases the classification hitherto existing is abolished, and the term of such leases is to be forty two years, subject to a revaluation of the rent for the second twenty one years, the rent to be determined by the carrying capacity of the land for the depasturing of stock, the value

the land for agricultural and other purposes, and the proximity and facilities of approach to railway stations, ports, rivers, and markets. Pastoral leases current at the time of the passage of the legislation referred to are divided into three classes. Class A includes all pastoral lands within district A, the boundaries of which are set out in the schedule to the Pastoral Act of 1893; class B includes similar land in district B; and class C includes all pastoral lands to the south of the 30th parallel of south latitude, and not included in classes A and B. Leases in classes A and B have a currency of twenty-one years, and in class C of twenty one years, with a right of renewal for a similar term at a revaluation.

No mining by the lessee is allowed, but he may use the surface of the land for any purpose, whether pastoral or not. Improvements are valued solely in connection with their worth to the incoming lessee, and may in no case exceed in value such as are necessary for the working of a run of 5,000 sheep in Class A, of 10,000 sheep in Class B, or of 30,000 sheep in Class C, or a proportionate number of cattle, five sheep being taken as the equivalent of one head of cattle. Revaluations may be made during the currency of a lease if, by the construction of Government works in the neighbourhood, such as railways and waterworks, the land should have received an enhanced value. Leases are granted to discoverers of pastoral lands, or to any person for inferior lands, for forty two years—the first five years at a peppercorn rental; the next five years at 1s. per annum per square mile, and the remainder of the term at 2s. 6d. per annum per square mile. For all other leases the minimum rent is fixed at 2s. 6d. per annum per square mile, together with 2d for each sheep depastured in Classes A and B, and 1d for each sheep in Class C. Provision is made for the resumption of leases and the granting of compensation. All disputed cases are decided according to the terms of the Arbitration Act, 1891.

A pastoral lessee may surrender his lease for a perpetual lease where the unimproved value of the land comprised therein, together with that of any other lands held by him, does not exceed £5,000, or where, in the opinion of the Commissioner, the land is suitable only for pastoral purposes, and the carrying capacity thereof unimproved, and of all other lands held by the lessee under any tenure does not exceed 5,000 sheep.

In cases where the area held by an outgoing lessee is reduced by resumption below a certain minimum, the improvements are to be valued for the protection of such lessee as if the area were of the minimum carrying capacity, and any difference between their value and that paid by the incoming lessee is to be borne by the Commissioner. The Commissioner is not bound to recover improvement moneys or protect improvements, and any moneys paid to an incoming lessee for depreciation of improvements are to be laid out in their repair, but a lessee may be released from the liability to repair improvements if others in lieu thereof are made to the satisfaction of the Commissioner.

The lessee covenants to stock the land, before the end of the third year, with sheep, in the proportion of at least five head, or with cattle in the proportion of at least one head, for every square mile leased, and before the end of the seventh year to increase the stock to at least twenty sheep or four head of cattle per square mile, and to maintain the numbers at that rate. In addition, pastoral leases granted subsequent to 28th January, 1899, contain a covenant binding the lessee to expend in improvements such sum, not to exceed 10s. per mile, per annum, as shall be recommended by the Pastoral Board, and approved by the Commissioner, the covenant to cease so soon as an expenditure of at least £3 per mile in improvements has been made on the land.

In cases where the Commissioner is satisfied that the country is waterless or infested with vermin, the covenant relating to stocking the land may be qualified, provided that a sum equal to £5 per square mile of the leased land has been expended in the destruction of vermin or in the construction of water improvements. Where artesian water yielding not less than 5,000 gallons per diem is discovered, the lessee is entitled to a remission of five years' future rent in respect of an area of 100 square miles surrounding such well, but this concession cannot be claimed on account of more than four wells on any one run.

Forfeiture of a lease does not take effect until after three months' notice has been given to the lessee, who may thereupon apply for relief to the Tenants' Relief Board, which consists of a Judge of the Supreme Court assisted by two assessors. After consideration of all matters affecting the question, the Board may determine as they think fit.

Workingmen's Leases.

A new feature has been introduced into the land legislation of the colony, in response to the claims of the working classes. It is enacted that certain lands of the province may be surveyed into blocks exceeding 20 acres in area, so long as the unimproved value does not exceed £100, and leased under the conditions affecting leases granted with the right of purchase and perpetual leases. No one except a person who gains his livelihood by his own labour, and who has attained the age of 18 years, is entitled to a working man's lease. Either husband or wife may hold a working man's block, but not both at the same time. The rent is payable annually in advance. The lessee is bound to reside on the land for at least nine months in every year, but residence by the wife or any member of his family is held as a fulfilment of the residential condition. Working men's leases situated within a radius of 10 miles from the Post Office, Adelaide, cannot be taken up with the right of purchase.

Exchange of Lands.

Crown lands may be exchanged for any other lands, notwithstanding the existence of any lease that may have been issued in connection with the former. The Crown lands proposed to be given in exchange may be granted in fee simple or under perpetual lease.

Village Settlements.

Twenty or more persons of the age of eighteen and upwards may form an association for the purpose of founding a village settlement. The memorandum, on approval of the Commissioner, is deemed to be registered, and the association becomes a corporate body, with the right to sue and to be sued. The proclamation sets forth the name, situation, and boundaries of the village, the names of the villagers and of the trustees of the association; the maximum area to be allotted to each villager, and the nature and aggregate value of the improvements to be made on the land, and the period within which they are to be effected. Within two months of the publication of the proclamation constituting a village, the Commissioner is to issue to the association a perpetual lease thereof. The conditions attached are that, after the first six months from the date of issue of the lease, at least one-half of the villagers shall reside upon and utilise the land in the manner prescribed, and that during each of the first ten years the sum of 2s. per acre at least shall be expended in improvements, which are to be kept in good repair; and that the lands are not to be sub-let. The Commissioner may make advances to registered associations, to the extent of £100 for each villager, for the purchase of tools or to effect improvements, such advances to be repaid in ten equal yearly instalments, with interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum. Power is vested in the Commissioner to expel from an association any villager who has become liable to expulsion under the rules; to control and direct the expenditure of any money advanced, to call upon a trustee to resign where the welfare of the association calls for such action, and to require an association to increase the number of villagers so that it may not be less than the number who signed the rules when first registered—the total to be not more than 500.

Registration of Homesteads.

The Homestead Act of 1895 has for its object a simple method of securely settling homesteads for the benefit of settlers and their families. It is essential that applicants for the registration of their homesteads should be residing, and have resided for at least one year prior to making the application, on the land to be registered. Homesteads with improvements thereon of the value of more than £1,000, or in respect of which the applicant is not either the owner of an unincumbered estate in fee-simple or the holder of a perpetual lease from the Crown, are not eligible for registration. The effect of registration is to settle the homestead for the benefit of the settler and family until the period of distribution, either under his will, or when his children have all attained the age of 21 years. No alienation or attempted alienation by the settler or his family has any force or effect other than as provided for, and their interest continues unaffected to the value of £1,000 only. Provision is made for the leasing of the homestead, but for no period longer than three years. Registration

[illegible] should the settler become bankrupt or ma[illegible] assignment for the benefit of his creditors within twelve month[illegible] the date of registration, and a similar course may be adopted [illegible] event of his death within a like period and should it be shown th[illegible] estate is insufficient for the payment of his debts and liabilities w[illegible] recourse to the homestead. The Act applies to land brought und[illegible] provisions of the Real Property Act of 1886, as well as to lan[illegible] subject to that Act.

Closer Settlement.

With a view to the encouragement of closer settlement in the p[illegible] interest by facilitating the acquisition by the Crown of large estat[illegible] subdivision and letting for agricultural purposes at reasonable [illegible] power is given to the Commissioner to acquire such. The price [illegible] [illegible] for lands compulsorily taken is not to exceed the unimp[illegible] [illegible] of the land, together with the value of the improve[illegible] [illegible], with an additional [illegible] per cent. for compulsory resumptio[illegible]

Mining Areas.

[illegible] for the issue of business and occupation lic[illegible] [illegible] ¼ acre in townships nor [illegible] [illegible] not be situated within 5 [illegible] [illegible] they come within a gold[illegible] [illegible] for six months or £1 [illegible] [illegible] not exceeding ¼ acre are gra[illegible] [illegible] annual rental of 2s or less.

[illegible] TERRITORY.

[illegible] includes the whole o[illegible] [illegible] of south latitude, bo[illegible] [illegible] on the west, an[illegible] [illegible] Continent is under [illegible] [illegible] Government of S[illegible] [illegible] of lands within [illegible] [illegible] enacted by the S[illegible] [illegible] the Northern Terr[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] purchased for cash, wi[illegible] [illegible] acres for 12s. 6d. per [illegible] [illegible] payment system to [illegible] [illegible] payable in ten y[illegible] [illegible]

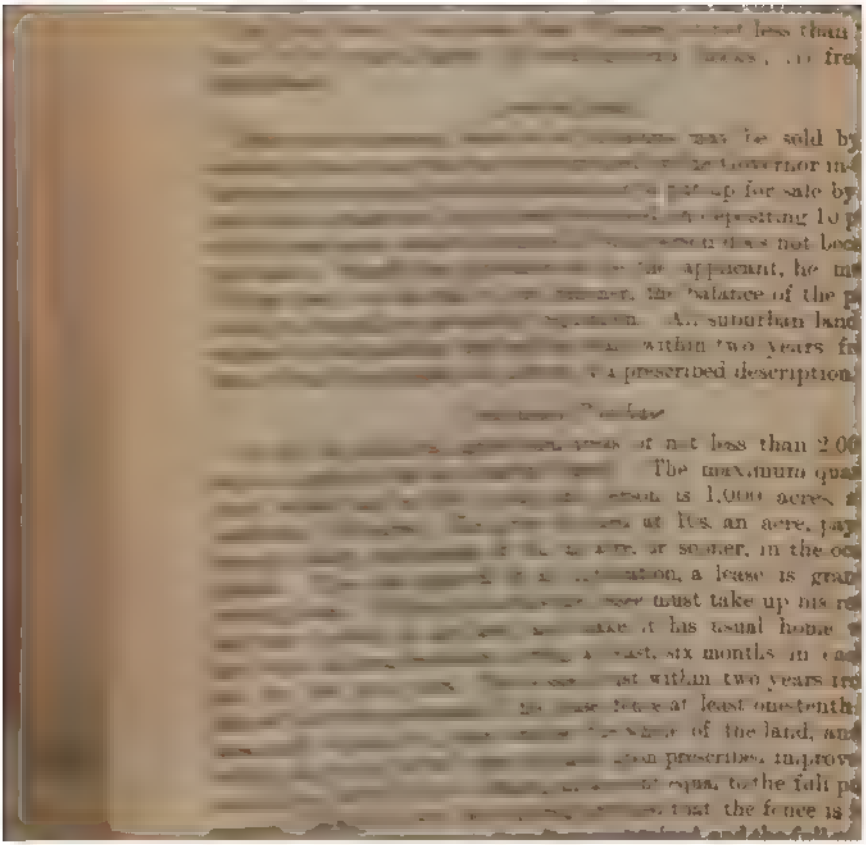
[illegible] issued for a term not exce[illegible] [illegible] square miles, the annual r[illegible] [illegible] per square mile, while 2s. 6d. [illegible] charged during the remainder of the term.

In order to encourage the cultivation of tropical produce, such as rice, sugar, coffee, tea, indigo, cotton, tobacco, etc., special provisions have been enacted. Blocks of 320 acres to 1,280 acres may be let for such purposes at the rate of 6d. per acre per annum. If, on the expiration of five years, the lessee can prove that he had cultivated one-fifth of his area by the end of the second year, and one-half by the end of the fifth year, he is relieved from all further payment of rent, and the amount already so paid is credited to him towards the purchase of the land in fee.

Western Australia.

The first regulations referring to land settlement in Western Australia were issued by the Colonial Office in 1829, at the time when Captain James Stirling was appointed Civil Superintendent of the Swan River settlement. The first special grants were made in favour of Captain Stirling himself for an area of 100,000 acres near Geographe Bay, and of Mr. Thomas Peel, for 250,000 acres on the southern bank of the Swan River and across the Channing to Cockburn Bay—Mr Peel covenanting to introduce at his own cost 400 immigrants into the colony by a certain date. Persons proceeding to the settlement at their own cost, in parties in which the numbers were in the proportion of five females to every six male settlers, received grants in proportion to the amount of capital introduced, at the rate of 40 acres for every sum of £1. Capitalists were granted land at the rate of 200 acres for every labouring settler introduced at their expense, but these grants were subject to cancellation if the land was not brought into cultivation or retained within twenty one years. These regulations were amended by others of a similar nature, issued on the 20th July, 1830. In 1832, however, the mode of disposing of Crown lands by sale came into force, the regulations issued in that year assimilating the system of settlement to that in force in the colonies of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land. Other alterations were made from time to time, until in October, 1898 an Act amending and consolidating the laws relating to the sale, occupation, and management of Crown lands received assent.

For the purposes of administration, the Colony is divided into six divisions, namely, the South-west Division, the Western Division, the North-west Division, the Kimberley Division, the Eucla Division, and the Eastern Division. Land may be acquired in the following manner:—(1) By auction of town and suburban lands in all divisions, at an upset price to be determined by the Governor; (2) by conditional purchase (*a*) by deferred payments with residence within agricultural areas in all divisions; (*b*) by deferred payments with residence on any land other than agricultural in the South-west Division; (*c*) by deferred payments with residence on any land within 40 miles of a railway within the Eastern and Eucla Divisions, at a price of not less than 10s. per acre, payable in twenty yearly instalments, and in areas not exceeding 1,000 acres nor less than 100 acres; (*d*) by deferred payments without resi-



Under the fourth mode of purchase, the applicant is subject to all the conditions, except that of residence, imposed under the first mode, but he has to expend twice the amount on improvements in lieu of residence.

By the fifth mode, land of a minimum extent of 100 acres and a maximum of 1,000 acres, within an agricultural area, and not more than 5,000 acres outside an agricultural area, may be applied for at a price not less than 10s. per acre, fixed by the Governor in Council. Within three years the land must be enclosed, and within seven years a sum equal to 5s. per acre must be spent on improvements, in addition to the exterior fencing.

For garden purposes, small areas of not less than 5 acres nor more than 50 acres (except in special cases) may be purchased within all divisions at 20s. per acre on condition that within three years the land shall be fenced in, and one-tenth of the area planted with vines or fruit trees or vegetables.

Lands infested with poisonous indigenous plants, so that sheep or cattle cannot be depastured thereon, are available for conditional purchase in areas of not more than 10,000 acres nor less than 3,000 acres, at a price not less than 1s. per acre, payable half yearly, at the rate of one thirtieth of the total purchase money per annum. Upon approval of the application, a lease for thirty years is granted, subject to the conditions that the lessee shall, within two years, fence one tenth, and within five years enclose the whole area, with a fence of the prescribed description, and, during the term of his lease, eradicate the whole of the poisonous indigenous plants. At the expiration of the lease, or at any time during the currency of the same, provided all the conditions have been complied with, the fencing properly maintained, and the full balance of the purchase money and fees have been paid, and provided that the land has been rendered safe for depasturing cattle and sheep in all seasons, and has continued so for a term of two years, a Crown grant of the land issues. A pastoral lessee has the first right to select land within his lease under this mode.

Every person who does not own land within the colony in freehold, under special occupation, or conditional purchase, or a homestead lease, who is the head of a family, or a male who has attained the age of 18 years, is entitled to obtain a lease of lands set apart for working miners' blocks. The maximum area that may be selected by one person is 1 acre within a gold field, ½ an acre, or 5 acres elsewhere. The price of the land is not less than £1 per acre, payable half yearly, at the rate of one-tenth of the total purchase money per annum. The application is to be accompanied by a deposit of half a year's rent, and, on approval, a lease for ten years issues. Within three months from the date of the lease the lessee must take personal possession and reside upon it during at least nine months in each of the first five years of the lease; possession and residence may, however, be performed by the lessee's wife or a member of his family. Within three years the land must be fenced, and within five years an amount equal to double the full purchase

money, in addition to his house and exterior fencing, must be expended on the land in prescribed improvements. At the expiration of the lease, provided all the conditions have been complied with, and the fencing and improvements maintained, and the full purchase money and fees paid, a Crown grant issues.

Any person who does not already own more than 100 acres of land within the colony, in freehold or conditional purchase, and being the head of a family, or a male who has attained the age of 18 years, may apply for a free homestead farm of not more than 160 acres, from lands declared open for such selection within the South-west Division, and within 40 miles of a railway in the Eastern or Eucla Division, not being within a gold field. The application is to be accompanied by a statutory declaration and a fee of £1, and, upon approval, an occupation certificate authorising the applicant to enter upon and take possession of the land for the term of seven years is issued. Within six months from the date of the occupation certificate, the selector must take personal possession of the land, and reside upon it for at least six months in each year for the first five years of the term. Within two years from the date of the certificate, a habitable house must be erected of not less than £30 in value, or the selector must expend £30 in clearing, or clearing and cropping, or prepare and plant 2 acres of orchard and vineyard. Within five years, one-fourth of the land must be fenced and one-eighth cleared and cropped. Within seven years, the whole must be enclosed, and at least one fourth cleared and cropped. At the expiration of seven years, provided the conditions have been complied with, a Crown grant issues on payment of the usual fees.

Pastoral Lands.

Pastoral lands are granted on lease, which gives no right to the soil or to the timber, except for fencing and other improvements on the land leased, and the lands may be reserved, sold, or otherwise disposed of by the Crown during the term. The following are the terms of pastoral leases in the several divisions; all leases expire on the 31st December, 1928, and the rental named is for every 1,000 acres:—South-west division.—In blocks of not less than 3,000 acres, at 20s. per annum for each 1,000 acres or part of 1,000 acres; if, however, the land is in that part of the division situated eastward of a line from the mouth of the Fitzgerald River in the direction of Mount Stirling the rental is 10s. per annum for each 1,000 acres or part thereof. Western and North-west division.—In blocks of not less than 20,000 acres, at 10s. per annum for each 1,000 acres or part thereof. Eucla division.—In blocks of not less than 20,000 acres, at 5s. per annum for each 1,000 acres or part thereof. Eastern division.—In blocks of not less than 20,000 acres, at the following rental:—For each 1,000 acres or part thereof, 2s. 6d. for each of the first seven years, and 5s. for each of the remaining years of the lease. Kimberley division.—In blocks of not less than 50,000 acres when on a frontage, nor less than 20,000

acres when a part of the boundary is on a frontage, at a rental of 10s per annum for each 1,000 acres or part thereof. Any lessee in the Waterley Division, or in that part of the south-west division situated to the eastward of a line from the mouth of the Fitzgerald River in the direction of Mount Stirling may obtain a reduction of one-half the rent due for the remaining years of his lease, who at any time during the term shall have in his possession within the division ten head of sheep or one head of large stock for each 1,000 acres leased. Except in the south-western division, a penalty or double rental for the remainder portion of the lease is imposed, should the lessee within seven years, have failed to comply with the stocking clause.

Any Crown land within a gold-field or mining district, not required to be reserved for any public purpose, may be leased for pastoral purposes in blocks of not less than 2,000 acres at a rental of 10s per 1,000 acres. In the event of the land, or any portion of it, being taken for an agricultural area, the lessee is only entitled to three months notice.

Resumption of Lands.

The Lands Resumption Act of 1894 provides for the resumption of land for the public purposes set out in detail therein. The manner in which the resumption is to be made is set forth, and on the publication of the Order in Council the land becomes vested in Her Majesty, compensation being based on the probable and reasonable price for which the fee-simple with any improvements upon the land may be expected to sell at the time of resumption, except in those cases where the Crown is entitled to resume under the provisions of the grant. The provisions of certain sections of the Railways Act of 1878, and amendments thereto, are held to be applicable to the methods of settling compensation or arbitration in respect of lands so resumed.

Mining Area.

Business licenses may be issued to any person, not being an Asiatic or Mongolian alien, on payment of the prescribed fee, and the licensee is entitled to occupy an area not exceeding 1 acre for residential and business purposes, with right of transfer.

TASMANIA.

In the earlier period of the occupation of Tasmania, from 1804 to 1825, the island was administered as a part of New South Wales, and its settlement was subject to the regulations affecting the disposal of the Crown domain in that colony. After its constitution under a separate administration, the regulations issued from the Colonial Office for the settlement of the Crown lands in the mother colony were made applicable also to Tasmania. New measures were introduced after self government had been granted to the province, but they became so complicated and cumbersome that in 1890 the necessity was felt of passing an Act consolidating into one comprehensive and general measure the twelve Acts then in force.

The business of the Lands and Survey Departments is now transacted by virtue of the Crown Lands Act of 1890, under which, for the convenience of survey operations, the island is divided into fourteen districts. Lands of the Crown are divided into two classes—town lands and rural lands, the latter being further subdivided into first-class agricultural lands and second-class lands. Lands which are known to be auriferous or to contain other minerals, and such lands as may be necessary for the preservation and growth of timbers, are dealt with under separate sections; and the Governor-in-Council is empowered to reserve such lands as he may think fit for a variety of public purposes.

Land may be acquired in the following manner:—(1) By selection of rural lands in areas of not less than 15 nor more than 320 acres, at an upset price of £1 per acre, with one-third added for credit; (2) by selection of rural lands of not less than 15 nor more than 50 acres, at an upset price of £1 per acre, with one third added for credit; (3) by selection of lands within mining areas—if situated within 1 mile of a town reserve, of an area of not less than 1 nor more than 10 acres, and if at a greater distance than 1 mile, of not less than 10 nor more than 100 acres the upset price of first class lands being not less than £1 per acre, payable in fourteen years, and that for second-class lands not less than 10s. per acre, payable in ten years; (4) by auction—(*a*) of town lands at the upset price notified in the *Gazette*, (*b*) of second class lands at an upset price of 10s. per acre in lots of not less than 30 nor more than 320 acres, (*c*) of rural lands at an upset price of not less than £1 per acre (maximum area 320 acres), (*d*) of lands within mining areas in areas of not less than 1 nor more than 100 acres at an upset price of not less than £1 per acre, payable in fourteen years; (5) by after auction sale of rural lands previously offered at auction and not sold at the upset price notified in the *Gazette*.

In the rural division any person of the age of 18 years may select by private contract at the price and upon the terms set forth hereunder:—

One lot of rural lands not exceeding 320 acres nor less than 15 acres.

	£	s.	d.
100 acres at 20s.	100	0	0
Add ⅓ for credit	33	6	8
	133	6	8

Payable as follows:	£	s.	d.	
Cash at time of purchase	3	6	8	
First year	5	0	0	
Second year	5	0	0	
Third year	10	0	0	
And for every one of the eleven successive years to the fourteenth year inclusive at the rate of £10 per annum	110	0	0	
				133 6 8

The same proportions are allowed for any greater or smaller area than 50 acres, but credit is not given for any sum less than £15. Additional selections may be taken up, provided the total area held by one selector does not exceed 320 acres. Selection by agent is not allowed.

Sales of Land on Credit.

Any person of the full age of 18 years, who has not purchased under the Crown Lands Acts, may select and purchase one lot of rural land of not more than 50 acres nor less than 15 acres; and on payment of a registration fee of £1 an authority is issued to the selector to enter upon and take possession of the land, which must be done in person within six months from the date of issue of certificate. The purchase money, which is calculated on the upset price of £1 per acre, together with the survey fee, and with one third of the whole added for credit, is payable in fifteen annual instalments, the first of which is due in the fourth year of occupation. A condition of purchase is that the selector shall expend a sum equal to £1 per acre in effecting substantial improvements (other than buildings) on the land, or reside personally thereon for the full term of eighteen years, before a grant of it is issued. Where a purchaser is unable to pay the instalments as they become due, they may be deferred for any period up to five years on payment of interest at the rate of 5 per cent., if all other conditions have been fulfilled, and the selector may take possession of his land as soon as his application has been approved by the Commissioner and the survey fee paid.

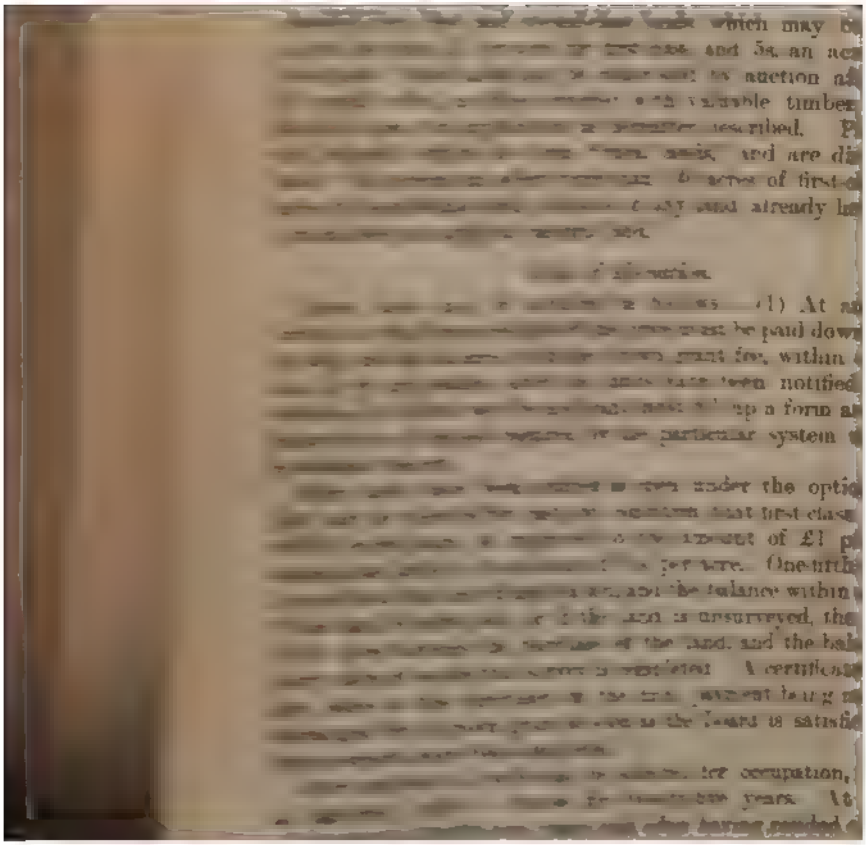
The conditions in connection with the credit system are as follows:—The purchaser must commence to make improvements on the expiration of one year from the date of contract, and during eight consecutive years must expend not less than 2s. 6d. per acre per annum, under penalty of forfeiture. Any surplus over 2s. 6d. per acre spent in any year may be set against a deficiency in another year, so that £1 per acre shall be spent in the course of the eight years. In the event of improvements to the full amount being made before the expiration of the eight years, the purchaser may pay off any balance due, discount being allowed. Payment of instalments may in certain cases be postponed, but under such circumstances interest must be paid at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum. In certain cases the time for making the improvements may be extended for two years. Should an instalment not be paid within sixty days after becoming due, the land may be put up to auction, the defaulter having the privilege of redeeming his land up to the time of sale by payment of the amount due, with interest and costs. If land sold at auction by reason of default should realise more than the upset price, the excess is handed to the defaulter. Land purchased on credit is not alienable until paid for, but transfers are allowed. For five years after alienation land is liable to be resumed for mining purposes, compensation being paid to the occupier. All grant deeds contain a reservation by the Crown of the right to mine for minerals.

Grazing Leases.

Grazing leases of unoccupied country may be offered at auction, but such runs are liable at any time to be sold or licensed, or occupied for other than pastoral purposes. The rent is fixed by the Commissioner, and the run is put up to auction, the highest bidder receiving a lease for fourteen years. The lessee may cultivate such portion of the land as is necessary for the use of his family and establishment, but not for sale or barter of produce. Should any portion of the run be sold or otherwise disposed of, a corresponding reduction may be made in the rent, which is payable half-yearly in advance. A lease is determinable should the rent not be paid within one month of becoming due. In the event of the land being wanted for sale or any public purpose, six months' notice must be given to the lessee, who receives compensation for permanent improvements. Leases for not more than fourteen years may be granted for various public purposes, such as the erection of wharfs, docks, etc. Portions of a Crown reserve may also be leased for thirty years for manufacturing purposes.

NEW ZEALAND.

The first settlements in New Zealand were founded upon land obtained from the various native tribes, and the task of distinguishing between the few *bona-fide* and the numerous bogus claims to the possession of land thus acquired was the first difficulty which confronted Captain Hobson when, in 1840, he assumed the government of the colony. Trading in land with the natives had, from 1815 to 1840, attained such proportions that the claims to be adjudicated upon covered 45,000,000 acres the New Zealand Company, of which Mr. Edward Gibbon Wakefield, of South Australian fame, was the managing director, claiming an estate of no less than 20,000,000 acres in area. In the year 1840, the Legislature of New South Wales passed an Act empowering the Governor of that colony to appoint a Commissioner to examine and report upon all claims to grants of land in New Zealand all titles, except those allowed by Her Majesty, being declared null and void. This Act, before receiving the Royal assent, was superseded by an Act of the local Council, passed in 1841, under which the remaining claims were settled, and new regulations were adopted for the future disposal of the Crown lands. When, later on, the colony became divided into independent provinces, each district had its own regulations, but in 1858 an Act was passed by the General Assembly embodying all the regulations under which land could be alienated or demised in the various provinces of the colony. This Act was repealed in 1876, and the enactments of 1885, 1887, and 1888 which followed have been superseded by the Lands Act of 1892 and its amending Acts of 1893, 1895, 1896, 1897 and 1899, under which the Crown lands are now administered. For convenience the colony is divided into ten land districts, each being under the direction of a local Commissioner and a land board.



cost of survey is to be deposited, and is credited to the selector as so much rent paid in advance, counted from the 1st day of January or July following thirty days' notice of the completion of survey. Residence on and improvement of the land are compulsory, as hereafter described. Land held on deferred payment may be mortgaged under the Government Advances to Settlers Act of 1894.

Perpetual Leases.

Lands notified under the optional system may be selected on a lease for 999 years (or in perpetuity), subject to the undermoted conditions of residence and improvements. The rental is 4 per cent. on the cash price of the land. In the case of surveyed lands, the application must be accompanied by half a year's rent, which represents that due on the 1st day of January or July following the date of selection. In the case of unsurveyed lands, the cost of survey must be deposited, and is credited to the selector as so much rent paid in advance, dating from the 1st day of January or July after thirty days' notice of completion of survey. Two or more persons may make a joint application to hold as tenants in common under either of the two last-named tenures. Crown lands may be leased to any society for the establishment of industrial, rescue, or reformatory homes, for a period of twenty-one years, with perpetual right of renewal at an annual rental of 5 per cent. on the capital value, subject to such conditions as the Minister may deem fit to prescribe. In the event of default, the land, with any improvements thereon, reverts to the Crown.

Conditions of Tenure.

Under all systems—excepting cash purchases or pastoral and small grazing-run leases—residence and improvements are the same. Residence is compulsory (with a few exceptions mentioned in the Act), and must commence on bush or swamp lands within four years, and on open or partly open lands within one year from the date of selection. On lands occupied with a right of purchase, residence must be continuous for six years in the case of bush or swamp lands, and for seven years in the case of open or partly open lands; on lease in perpetuity lands it must be continuous for a term of ten years. The Board has power to dispense with residence in certain cases, such as where the selector resides on adjacent lands, or is a youth or an unmarried woman living with his or her parents. The term "residence" includes the erection of a habitable house to be approved of by the Board.

Improvements are the same for all classes of land—excepting cash purchases or pastoral and small grazing-run leases—and are as follow:—Within one year from the date of the license or lease the land must be improved to an amount equal to 10 per cent. of its value; within two years, to the amount of another 10 per cent.; within six years, to the amount of another 10 per cent., making 30 per cent. in all within the six years; and in addition to the foregoing, it must be further improved to the amount of £1 an acre for first-class land, and

for second class to an amount equal to the net price of the land, but not more than 10s. an acre. Improvements comprise the reclamation of swamps, the clearing of bush, cultivation, the planting of trees, the making of hedges, the cultivation of gardens, fencing, draining, the making of roads, wells, water-tanks, water races, sheep-dips, embankments or protective works, or the effecting of any improvement in the character or fertility of the soil, or the erection of any building, etc., and cultivation includes the clearing of land for cropping, or clearing and ploughing for laying down artificial grasses, etc.

Under the existing regulations any group of persons numbering not less than twelve may apply for a block of land of not less than 1,000 acres nor more than 11,000 acres in extent, but the number of members must be such that there shall be one for every 200 acres in the block, and no one may hold more than 320 acres, except of swamp lands, of which the area may be 500 acres. The price of lands within a special settlement is fixed by special valuation, but it cannot be less than 10s. an acre. The rental may not be less than 4 per cent. on the capital value of the land, the tenure is lease in perpetuity. Residence, occupation, and improvement are generally the same as already described, and applications have to be made in the manner prescribed by the regulations.

Improved Farm Settlements

Special regulations are in force for this class of settlement, and those who form settlements are selected from the applicants by the Commissioner, preference being given to married men. The area of the farms may vary from 10 to 200 acres, according to locality, and no settler can select more than one farm. The land is leased for 999 years at a rental of 4 per cent. on the capital value, to which is added 5 per cent. on the amount advanced by Government for clearing, grassing, etc. Residence for the first ten years is compulsory, and the improvements to be effected are similar to those on perpetual leases.

Village Settlements.

Village settlements are disposed of under regulations made from time to time by the Governor, but the main features are as follow:— Such settlements may be divided into (1) Village allotments not exceeding one acre each, which are disposed of either at auction or upon application as already described, with option of tenure, the cash price being not less than £3 per allotment; and (2) homestead allotments not exceeding 100 acres each, which are leased in perpetuity at a 4 per cent. rental on a capital value of not less than 10s. per acre. Where a village settlement selector has taken up less than the maximum area prescribed, he may obtain an additional area in certain cases without competition on the same tenure and terms as the original holding. Residence, improvements, and applications are the same as already described. The leases are exempt from liability to be seized or sold for debt or bank-

rents. The Governor is empowered in certain cases to advance small sums for the purpose of enabling selectors to profitably occupy their allotments.

Grazing Areas.

Small grazing runs are divided into two classes: first-class, in which they cannot exceed 5,000 acres; and second class, in which they cannot exceed 20,000 acres in area. These runs are leased for terms of twenty one years, with right of renewal for a like term, at a rent of 2½ per cent on the capital value of the land, but such capital value cannot be less than 5s. per acre. The runs are declared open for selection, and applications and declarations on the forms provided have to be filled in and left at the Lands Office, together with a deposit of six months' rent, representing that due on the 1st day of March or September following selection. A selector may not hold more than one small grazing run, nor may he hold any freehold or leasehold land of any kind whatsoever over 1,000 acres, exclusive of the area for which he applies under this system. The lease entitles the holder to the grazing rights and to the cultivation of any part of the run, and to the reservation of 150 acres around his homestead through which no road may be taken; but the runs are subject to the mining laws. Residence is compulsory on bush or swamp land within three years, and on open land within one year; and it must be continuous to the end of the term, though this latter condition may in certain cases be relaxed. Improvements are necessary as follow:—Within the first year, to the amount of one year's rent; within the second year, to the amount of another year's rent; and within the next four years to the value of two years rent; making a sum equal to four years' rental to be spent on the run in six years. In addition to this, a first class run must be improved to an amount of 10s. an acre, and a second class run to an amount of 5s., if the land be under bush. After three years' compliance with these conditions, the run may be divided among the members of the selector's family who are of the age of 17 years and upwards, and new leases may be issued to them on the terms and subject to the conditions of residence and improvements contained in the original lease.

Pastoral Leases.

Purely pastoral country is let by auction for a term not exceeding twenty one years; but, except in extraordinary circumstances, no run can be of a carrying capacity greater than 20,000 sheep or 4,000 cattle. Runs are classified from time to time into those which are suitable for carrying more than 5,000 sheep (let as above), and into pastoral-agricultural country, which may either be let as pastoral runs, generally for short terms, or be cut up for settlement in some form. Leases of pastoral-agricultural lands may be resumed without compensation at any time after twelve months' notice has been given. No one can hold more than one run unless it possesses a smaller carrying capacity than 10,000 sheep

A large area, principally in the North Island, remains in the hands of the native race, and this land may be acquired for settlement after a report upon its character, suitableness for settlement, and value, has been made by a Board specially appointed for the purpose. On notification, the land becomes Crown land, subject to trust for native owners.

Australasian Settlement.

The particulars given in the foregoing pages will have made the fact abundantly clear that the main object of the land legislation, however variously expressed, has been to secure the settlement of the public estate by an industrious class, who, confining their efforts to areas of moderate extent, would thoroughly develope the resources of the land. But where the character of the country does not favour agricultural occupation or mixed farming, the laws contemplated that the State lands should be leased in blocks of considerable size for pastoral occupation, and it was hoped that by this form of settlement vast tracts which, when first opened up, seemed ill adapted even for the maintenance of live-stock, might ultimately be made available for industrial settlement. To how small an extent the express determination of the legislators to settle an industrious peasantry on the soil was accomplished will presently be illustrated from the records of several of the provinces, but in regard to pastoral settlement the purpose was fully achieved—large areas, which were pronounced even by experienced explorers to be uninhabitable wilds, have since been occupied by thriving flocks, and every year sees the great Australian desert of the early explorers receding step by step. The following statement shows the area of land alienated by each province, the area leased, and the area neither alienated nor leased at the close of 1899. The term "alienated" is used for the purpose of denoting that the figures include lands granted without purchase. The area so disposed of has not been inconsiderable in several provinces.—

State	Area.	Area alienated or in process of alienation.	Area leased	Area neither alienated nor leased
	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.
New South Wales	198,848,000	46,856,577	128,034,958	23,956,465
Victoria	56,247,760	23,248,503	13,148,701	19,848,496
Queensland	427,838,080	15,641,642	280,801,539	131,394,899
South Australia	578,361,600	14,534,830	260,796,108	303,030,662
Western Australia	624,588,800	6,478,940	95,771,860	522,537,991
Tasmania	16,778,000	4,801,266	1,040,701	10,936,033
Commonwealth	1,902,660,240	111,561,827	779,593,867	1,011,504,546
New Zealand	66,861,440	23,520,966	15,091,314	28,249,130
Australasia	1,969,521,680	135,082,823	794,685,181	1,039,753,676

purchased could be made, to acquire large holdings, and in this manner the obvious intentions of the Lands Acts were defeated. Notwithstanding failures in this respect, the Acts have otherwise been successful, as will appear from the following table, as well as from other pages in this volume. It is unfortunate that detailed information regarding settlement can only be given for four of the colonies, viz., New South Wales, South Australia, Western Australia, and New Zealand, and that in respect of Western Australia the information is deficient in regard to the area of the holdings. The figures given for New South Wales in the table refer to the year 1900, for South Australia to the Census year of 1891, and for Western Australia and New Zealand to the year 1899

Size of Holdings.	New South Wales.		South Australia.		Western Australia.	New Zealand.	
	Number of Holdings.	Area of Holdings.	Number of Holdings.	Area of Holdings.	Number of Holdings.	Number of Holdings.	Area of Holdings.
		acres.		acres.			acres.
1 to 100 acres ..	36,291	1,170,600	6 804	183,443	1,758	36,932	974,875
100 " 1,000 acres	26 253	9,176 835	10,618	4 71, 060	2,408	22 [illegible]	7,080 [illegible]
1,000 to 5,000 acres ..	4,823	8 771 907	2,584	4 623 937	404	[illegible]	[illegible]
5,000 to 20,000 acres	927	9,179,648	481	4,757 253	105	580	5,874 [illegible]
20,000 acres and upwards..	354	16,789,119	58	1,974,905	22	280	15,1[illegible]
Total.. .	68 098	45,086,209	20,755	16,230,898	4,847	62 630	34,396 [illegible]

Out of the 45,086,209 acres set down to New South Wales in the foregoing, 40,814,533 acres are in the actual occupation of the owners, and 1,271,676 acres are held under rent. In New Zealand the proportion was not stated at the last Census In South Australia only 5,510,289 acres are occupied by the owners, while 10,720,399 acres, or 66 per cent., are rented. The most remarkable feature of the table is that in New South Wales about one half the alienated land is owned by 694 persons, in South Australia by 1,283 persons, and in New Zealand by less than 500 persons or companies.

The increase in the number of each kind of live stock since the year 1861 is illustrated in the following table :—

Year	Sheep.	Cattle.	Horses.	Swine
1861	23,741,706	4,039,839	459,970	362,417
1871	49,773,584	4,713,820	782,558	737,477
1881	78,063,426	8,709,628	1,249,765	903,271
1891	124,547,937	11,861,330	1,787,835	1,154,553
1899	93,645,309	11,049,065	1,932,247	1,180,896

The average number of sheep, cattle, horses, and swine per head of population of Australasia at the same periods was as follows :—

Year.	Sheep.	Cattle.	Horses.	Swine.
1861	18·8	3·2	0·4	0·3
1871	25·3	2·4	0·4	0·4
1881	27·7	3·1	0·4	0·3
1891	31·8	3·0	0·5	0·3
1899	21·0	2·5	0·4	0·3

It will be seen that in 1861 there were 18·8 sheep for every person in Australasia, and that this number had increased to 31·8 in 1891. In 1899, however, in consequence of the continued dry seasons, and the demands made upon the flocks for the export trade, the average number has fallen to 21·0 per inhabitant. During the thirty-nine years the average number of cattle depastured diminished from 3·2 to 2·5 per head. The breeding of horses and swine has about kept pace with the population.

Sheep.

The suitability for pastoral pursuits of the land discovered in the early days was undoubtedly the means of inducing the infant colony of New South Wales to take its first step on the path of commercial progress, and, looking backward, it is not a little surprising to find how early some of the settlers, in the face of the almost insurmountable difficulty of transport which existed a century ago, availed themselves of the opportunities at their disposal. The importation of valuable specimens of sheep from England or the Cape of Good Hope prior to the introduction of steam was at all times attended with great risk, and it frequently happened that many of these costly animals died during the long voyage. These enterprises were, however, on the whole successful, and thus the flocks and herds of the colonists surely, if at first slowly, increased and multiplied.

By the year 1795, Captain Macarthur, one of the first promoters of sheep-breeding in New South Wales, had accumulated a flock of 1,000, which were held in great estimation, and gradually increased in value

until, as recorded by an entry in his journal ten years later, the marke price of a fat wether had risen to £5. Not satisfied with the nat increase of his flocks, Macarthur sought to improve the quality of fleeces, by which means he could see opening before him the promise great wealth and the prospect of establishing important commerci relations with Great Britain. With these ends in view, he proc from the Cape of Good Hope, at great cost and trouble, a num of superior rams and ewes. A happy circumstance favoured enterprise; for he had the good fortune to secure three rams and t ewes of very fine Spanish breed, which had been presented by th King of Spain to the Dutch Government. These animals, out of total of twenty-nine purchased at the Cape, arrived in Sydney in 17 and were disposed of to various breeders. With the exception Macarthur, however, those who had secured sheep of the superior bre made no attempt to follow up this advantage, being probably amp satisfied with the larger gains from the sale of an increased number animals. Macarthur, on the other hand, thought little of present profit and still less of breeding entirely for human consumption. He atte tively watched the results of crossing his imported rams with the o stock, and by systematically selecting the finer ewes which were th offspring for further mingling with the sires, he gradually improved the strain, and in a few years obtained fleeces of very fine texture wh met with the ready appreciation of English manufacturers. It has be asserted that Macarthur was not the first to introduce merino sheep int Australia; but whether this be so or not, there is no doubt that to hi is due the credit of having been the first to prove that the production o fine wool could be made a profitable industry in New South Wales.

Prior to the present century the production of the finest wool had be confined chiefly to Spain, and woollen manufactures were necessarily carried on in England upon a somewhat limited scale, which was not likely to improve in face of certain restrictions which the operati endeavoured to place upon their employers. These men, in support their contention that the woollen trade could not be expanded on acco of the limited supply of raw material, argued that fine wool was obtain able only in Spain; and it was at this favourable period that Macarthur arrived in England with specimens of the wool obtained from his finest sheep, conclusively proving the capabilities of Australia as a wool-produc ing country. In this way he opened up with English manufacturers small trade which, as Australasian wool rose in public estimation, gradu ally increased until it reached its present enormous dimensions. During his visit to England, Macarthur purchased an additional stock of ten rams and ewes of the noted Spanish breed, nearly equal in quality to those which in 1797 he had procured from the Cape of Good Hope. That these animals were the finest obtainable in Europe may be gathered from the fact they also had formed portion of a present from the King of Spain to George III. After his return to New South Wales, Macarthur patiently continued for many years the process of selection, with such

ss that in 1858, when his flock was finally dispersed, it was esti d that his superior ewes numbered fully 1,000. Victoria secured considerable portion of his flock, and the process of breeding pro- d simultaneously in that and other adjacent colonies.

Although the increase in the numbers of the finer sheep was satis y, yet the importation of superior stock was not discontinued, and stock of the colonies was augmented in 1823 and 1825 by the further duction of Spanish sheep. Sheep-breeding was about this period menced in the Mudgee district of New South Wales; the climate of region had a more favourable effect upon the quality of the fleeces that of any other part of the colony, and it was thence that the merinos were for a long time procured. As was to be expected, mate has in some respects changed the character of the Spanish The wool has become softer and more elastic, and while it has ished in density it has increased in length, so that the weight of ece has only slightly altered. Thus, on the whole, the quality of wool has improved under the beneficial influence of the climate, and further enhancement of its intrinsic value can be reasonably hoped there is at least every reason to believe that Australasian wool will ain its present high standard of excellence.

The following table shows the number of sheep in each colony at rvals of ten years since 1861, and at the end of 1899. In Victoria stock returns have been collected since 1894, and the figures that colony in the last column, therefore, refer to that year

State	Number of Sheep				
	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1899.
New South Wales	5,015,054	16,278,697	36,591,946	61,831,416	36,213,514
Victoria	6,239,278	10,002,481	10,267,265	12,028,148	13,180,943
Queensland	4,093,481	7,403,334	8,202,883	23,281,663	15,226,479
South Australia	3,038,456	4,412,655	6,810,856	7,745,541	5,721,493
Western Australia	279,576	670,989	1,267,912	1,962,212	2,282,306
Tasmania	1,514,418	1,305,480	1,847,479	1,662,801	1,672,068
Commonwealth	20,980,123	40,072,655	65,078,341	108,419,751	74,296,803
New Zealand	2,761,583	9,700,629	12,985,085	18,128,186	19,348,506
Australasia	23,741,706	49,773,564	78,063,426	124,547,937	93,645,309

In Tasmania alone has the business of sheep-breeding decreased since yet the colony is singularly well adapted for sheep-raising, and flocks are well known and annually drawn upon to improve the of sheep in the other colonies. In all the other provinces there been a material increase in the number of sheep depastured, but especially in New Zealand, Queensland, and West Australia.

The number of sheep in Australia was at its maximum in 1891, every year since then showing a large decrease from the one preceding. New South Wales, however, was responsible for the greater part of the [illegible], the flocks of the colony being reduced in eight years by [illegible]92. Very large decreases have also taken place in the flocks of Queensland and South Australia. In the other provinces the numbers have been practically stationary for many years.

The total number of sheep (including lambs) slaughtered in the various colonies during the five years ended 1899 is shown below. In South Australia and New Zealand no slaughtering returns are made, while the figures for Tasmania refer to the numbers killed in Hobart and Launceston only.

Year	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	Western Australia.	Tasmania (Hobart and Launceston.)
1895	8,363,003	2,326,002	.	.	104,315
1896	6,196,749	2,559,088	1,726,125	420,952	102,166
1897	5,790,103	2,434,519	1,902,735	505,091	107,223
1898	5,665,763	2,352,094	1,262,313	433,867	104,303
1899	4,795,259	....	1,497,546	.	93,913

The value of the sheep depastured in Australasia, on the basis of the average prices ruling in 1899, was £45,811,000, thus distributed among the various provinces —

	£
New South Wales	14,985,000
Victoria	6,067,000
Queensland	6,001,000
South Australia	2,503,000
Western Australia	1,150,000
Tasmania	900,000
Commonwealth	32,266,000
New Zealand	13,545,000
Australasia	£45,811,000

Cattle.

Except in Queensland, cattle breeding in the Australasian colonies is secondary to that of sheep. Indeed, in New South Wales in 1899 the number of the herds was even less than in 1861, the decrease amounting to 704,842. The lowest point was reached by that colony in 1885, when the herds only numbered 1,317,315, the result partly of continuous bad

for recent years is afforded by the next table, showing the number in each colony at the close of each year since 1885. As will be seen, returns were not collected in three of the provinces—Victoria, South Australia, and New Zealand for several of the years under review :—

Year	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
[illegible]	1,317,515	1,[illegible]	4,102,[illegible]	*	70,408	138,642	853,358
[illegible]	1,[illegible],844	1,[illegible]	4,[illegible]1,563	*	88,254	148,005	*
[illegible]	1,[illegible],487	1,[illegible],571	4,4[illegible]16	*	93,544	147,002	*
[illegible]	1,[illegible],907	1,[illegible],680	4,[illegible]32	*	95,822	142,019	853,358
[illegible]	1,[illegible],592	1,304,2[illegible]	4,[illegible]416	531,206	119,571	150,004	895,461
[illegible]	2,[illegible]1,229	1,7[illegible],881	5,[illegible]24	574,[illegible]32	130,970	162,440	831,831
[illegible]	2,1[illegible],858	1,81[illegible],104	6,[illegible]50	676,[illegible]33	135,690	167,788	*
[illegible]	2,[illegible],459	1,824,704	6,591,416	631,[illegible]22	162,886	170,085	851,801
[illegible]	2,[illegible]	1,81[illegible],291	6,[illegible],200	675,284	172,747	169,14[illegible]	885,[illegible]
[illegible]	2,[illegible],411	1,8[illegible],900	7,[illegible]07	*	187,214	177,038	964,034
[illegible]	2,150,057	*	6,8[illegible]401	*	200,[illegible]91	162,8[illegible]1	1,[illegible]7,[illegible]01
[illegible]	2,[illegible]165	*	6,[illegible]377	638,591	199,[illegible]33	157,736	1,138,[illegible]72
[illegible]	2,[illegible]	*	6,089,[illegible]13	546,[illegible]49	244,371	157,486	1,2[illegible],165
[illegible]	2,[illegible]16	*	5,5[illegible]	613,894	200,[illegible]47	14[illegible],54	1,2[illegible],024
[illegible]	1,[illegible]67,08[illegible]	*	5,053,536	528,524	297,081	160,204	1,21[illegible],430

* Returns not collected.

The number of cattle (including calves) slaughtered during each of the five years ended 1899 is shown in the following table for all the colonies except South Australia and New Zealand, which make no returns. The Tasmanian figures are the numbers killed in Hobart and Launceston only :—

Year	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	Western Australia.	Tasmania (Hobart and Launceston.)
1895	388,007	236,317	. . .	.	11,245
1896	351,246	245,477	474,946	30,664	9,393
1897	365,898	240,958	498,583	41,665	10,615
1898	354,042	244,319	572,735	33,203	10,029
1899	383,948	. . . .	640,898	. . . .	10,276

The value of the cattle in Australasia, on the basis of the average prices ruling in 1899, was £52,400,000, thus divided amongst the various provinces :—

	£
New South Wales	10,006,000
Victoria	11,518,000
Queensland	15,372,000
South Australia	3,324,000
Western Australia	1,750,000
Tasmania	1,015,000
Commonwealth	42,985,000
New Zealand	9,415,000
Australasia	£52,400,000

respectively of the total number in Australasia; while Victoria approached them very closely with 22·3 per cent. Of the other colonies, New Zealand possessed 13·6 per cent.; South Australia, 9·3 per cent.; Western Australia, 3·4 per cent.; and Tasmania, 1·6 per cent..

State.	Number of Horses.				
	1861	1871.	1881.	1891.	1899
New South Wales ..	233,220	304,100	398,577	459,755	482,200
Victoria .	84,057	181,643	278,195	440 696	431,547
Queensland . ..	28,983	91,910	194,217	399,364	479,127
South Australia .	52,597	78,125	159,678	202,906	180 335
Western Australia ..	10,720	22 698	31,755	40,812	65,918
Tasmania	22,118	23,054	25,607	31,262	31,189
Commonwealth.	431,695	701,530	1,088,029	1,574,795	1,670,316
New Zealand.	28,275	81,028	161,736	211,040	261,931
Australasia....	459,970	782,558	1,249,765	1,785,835	1,932 247

The value of horses in 1899, in the various colonies, is estimated as follows:—

	£
New South Wales	3,856,000
Victoria	5,184,000
Queensland	2,295,000
South Australia	1,260,000
Western Australia	775,000
Tasmania	330,000
Commonwealth	13,800,000
New Zealand	3,406,000
Australasia	£17,206 000

Stock-carrying Capacity of Australasia.

None of the colonies is stocked to its full capacity; indeed, in the large territory of Western Australia and in the Northern Territory of South Australia the process has only begun. A clear idea of the comparative extent to which each colony is stocked cannot be given unless the different kinds of animals are reduced to a common value. Assuming, therefore, that one head of large stock is equivalent to ten

Value of Pastoral Property and Production.

The total value of pastoral property in Australasia—that is, of improvements, plant, and stock—was estimated in 1899 at £241,554,000. In this amount the value of stock alone (excluding swine) comes to about £115,417,000. No account is taken of the value of land devoted to pastoral purposes, for though much purchased land is used for pastoring stock, the larger area comprises lands leased from the State, so that a statement which omitted to take into account the value of the State lands would be misleading. The annual return from pastoral pursuits in 1899 was £40,795,000, the share of each colony in the total production being as follows:—

New South Wales	£14,327,000
Victoria	7,219,000
Queensland	7,283,000
South Australia	2,563,000
Western Australia	869,000
Tasmania	687,000
Commonwealth	33,088,000
New Zealand	7,707,000
Australasia	£40,795,000

The products of dairy cattle and swine are not included in the foregoing statement, the figures being given in another place. It should be understood that the values quoted are those at the place of production. The value of the return from each class of stock may be approximately reasoned as follows:—

Sheep	£30,182,000
Cattle	7,748,000
Horses	2,865,000
Total	£40,795,000

Wool.

As might be supposed, the greater part of the value of production from sheep is due to wool. Thus, out of the £30,182,000 shown above, £22,950,000 is the value of wool, viz.: £22,685,500 for wool exported, and £274,500 for wool used locally. The value of the wool exported, according to the Customs returns, was £23,488,500—that is to say, £803,000 more than the figures shown above. The excess represents the charges for freight, handling, &c., between the sheep-walks and the port of shipment.

In consequence of the decreased production, the value of wool, which had been a diminishing quantity for many years, underwent a complete revolution in 1899, and prices advanced in some cases as much as 50 per cent. above those ruling in 1898, and were higher than for twenty years past, so that, although the clip was still further reduced in consequence of the drought, which had been prolonged for five consecutive seasons, the total return received from wool was nearly

as great as in 1891, the highest year on record. Nearly all the wool produced in Australasia is exported, the home consumption being small, amounting in 1899 to only 1·78 lb., greasy, per head of population; while in Europe and America the quantity of wool available for consumption by the industry amounted to 5·01 lb. per head. During the last two quinquennial periods the consumption of wool in Europe and America has averaged as follows:

1891-94	... ...	5·12 lb. per head of population
1895-99		5·19 lb. " "

The quantity, in the grease, of wool produced by each colony at decennial periods since 1861 and in 1899 was as follows:

State	1861	1871	1881	1891.	1899
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
New South Wales	19,254,800	74,401,300	161,022,900	321,416,000	252,907,700
Victoria	27,168,900	63,641,100	67,704,300	69,205,600	64,853,700
Queensland ...	12,356,100	36,553,200	34,275,300	83,118,100	92,898,000
South Australia	13,756,500	28,242,100	46,013,900	50,151,500	37,327,900
Western Australia.	820,500	1,888,000	4,654,600	9,501,700	10,795,300
Tasmania	5,129,100	6,687,800	10,325,100	10,102,900	9,114,800
Commonwealth	78,485,900	211,413,500	324,286,100	543,495,800	467,897,400
New Zealand .	9,601,700	46,192,300	69,055,600	117,733,500	164,122,700
Australasia . .	88,087,600	257,605,800	393,341,700	661,229,300	632,020,100

The great fall in the production is seen from the above table, which shows that the only colonies where an increase has taken place since 1891 are Queensland, Western Australia, and New Zealand, all the others showing a large decline. The increase in New Zealand has taken place in spite of the heavy demands upon the resources of the colony for the supply of sheep to meet the requirements of the London market in frozen mutton.

The weight of wool per sheep has been increasing regularly in almost every colony, as will be seen from the following table, which shows the weight of clip per sheep at each decennial interval since 1861. It is manifest that the Victorian figures are unreliable, because there is no reason to suppose that there was a decline in the weight of the fleece in 1891; on the contrary, it is known to have been steadily improving; and, again, the 1899 figures are open to doubt. The Western Australian and Tasmanian results also show irregularities, and are omitted from the table. The values for New South Wales and Queensland best represent the increase in the weight of the fleece on the mainland, and the New Zealand figures are also believed to be

correct. In South Australia the weight of wool per sheep is higher than in the other colonies, but the results are derived from the official statistics, and it seems as if the number of sheep in that colony has been under-estimated.

State.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1899.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
New South Wales	3·28	4·57	4·47	5·74	6·53
[illegible]	4·52	6·17	6·87	5·68	.
[illegible]	3·40	4·73	4·50	4·73	5·67
South Australia	4·69	6·41	6·93	6·85	6·99
New Zealand.	3·48	4·76	5·32	6·42	8·48

The values of the excess of exports over imports in each colony for the same periods were as follows. A careful examination of the figures proves rather conclusively that less care than might have been expected has been taken in stating the values, except in New South Wales and New Zealand, but they are taken from the official records, and are given for what they are worth :—

State.	Excess of Exports over Imports.				
	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1899.
	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales .	1,537,596	4,705,820	7,173,166	10,650,525	10,149,563
[illegible] .	2,001,681	4,482,461	2,662,769	3,702,938	3,350,351
[illegible]land .	613,074	1,158,833	1,331,869	3,453,548	3,379,179
South Australia . .	572,720	1,113,825	1,573,313	1,540,079	1,504,901
[illegible]n Australia .	54,297	122,637	256,090	329,365	423,296
Tasmania . . .	326,413	298,180	408,400	418,460	357,065
Commonwealth ...	5,105,721	11,882,736	13,396,207	20,184,915	19,164,355
New Zealand . .	523,728	1,606,144	2,914,046	4,129,686	4,324,171
Australasia	5,629,449	13,488,880	16,310,253	24,314,601	23,488,526

Western Australia and New Zealand were the only colonies to show an increase in the value during the year over that obtained in 1891.

According to returns prepared in London, the number of bales of Australasian wool imported into Europe and America during the year 1899 was 1,641,000, which were valued at £14 10s. per bale, giving a total of £23,794,500. The average price per bale in Sydney during the season 1898-9 was £11 12s. 6d. In comparing these prices, it must be remembered that not only have freight and charges to be added to the Australian value, but some allowance must be made for the difference in the quality and condition of the wool dealt with in the Australian

markets and in London. Large quantities of the inferior portions of the clip intended for sale in the London market are scoured prior to shipment, and the London price is therefore raised to an average considerably higher than the Sydney or Melbourne price with freight and charges added. In 1898, 1,703,000 bales were imported into Europe and America. These were valued at £12 5s. per bale, making the total value £20,861,750, so that, notwithstanding the greatly diminished import, the total value received was nearly £3,000,000 greater in 1899.

The price per lb. obtained for wool in grease in London at the end of each year from 1890 was as follows:—

Year.	New South Wales. (Average Merino)	Victoria (Good Average Merino.)	New Zealand (Average Cross-bred.)
	d.	d.	d.
1890	8½	10	10
1891	7½	9	9½
1892	7	8½	9½
1893	7	8½	9½
1894	6	7½	8½
1895	7½	9½	9½
1896	7	9	8½
1897	7½	9	8½
1898	7½	9½	7
1899	13	15½	10½

Taking the last fourteen years, the highest prices were realised for New South Wales and Victorian wools during 1899, namely, 13d. per lb. and 15½d. per lb. respectively. The maximum price for New Zealand wool, 11½d. per lb., was obtained in 1889. The lowest prices—6d. for New South Wales, 7½d. for Victoria, and 8d. for New Zealand—were experienced in 1895. The average prices realised during the whole period were 9½d. per lb. for New South Wales average merino, 11½d. for good average Victorian merino, and 9½d. for average New Zealand cross-bred. From these figures it will be seen that Victorian wool averages about 2d. per lb. higher than New South Wales wool. The figures must be taken with qualification. Much of the New South Wales wool, the product of the Riverina districts, is exported *via* Melbourne and sold as Port Philip wool, and brings a price considerably in excess of the average given in the table for the colony of which it is the produce. The quantity of wool sold at the local sales in the Australasian colonies is increasing. Particulars of these sales will be found in the chapter on "Commerce."

The Frozen-Meat Trade.

In view of the large increase in the live stock of Australasia, the question of the disposal of the surplus cast has become a matter of

serious consequence. In New South Wales especially, and in the Riverina district in particular, it was found necessary to have recourse to the old method of boiling down, which a fortunate rise in the price of tallow made it possible to carry on with a margin of profit; but with such prices as have ruled for tallow during the past few years it cannot be said that boiling-down offers any inducement to the pastoralist, although in 1899 the production of tallow in the colony reached the large quantity of 389,538 cwt.

In New Zealand a much better solution of the question of disposal of the surplus cast was found, and a trade in frozen mutton with the United Kingdom has been established on a thoroughly payable basis—an example which some of the other colonies are endeavouring to follow, although considerably handicapped by the want of cross-bred sheep and the prejudice of the English consumer against merino mutton.

The first successful attempt at shipping frozen mutton to England was made in New Zealand in 1882, and since then the trade has attained great proportions, to the immediate benefit of the Colonial producer as well as the English consumer. The trade initiated by the New Zealand Land Company has been extended by the formation of numerous joint stock companies, which now own twenty-one meat freezing works in the two islands, having an aggregate capacity for freezing about 4,000,000 sheep per year. The sheep are generally killed up country, and transported by rail to the freezing works. Several fleets of steamers are engaged in the trade, and the freight rates charged enable the companies to realise satisfactory profits. The growth of the frozen and preserved meat industries of New Zealand since 1881 is shown in the following table. The shipments are almost exclusively made to the United Kingdom:—

Year	Frozen or Chilled Meat						Preserved Meat	
	Beef.	Mutton.	Lamb.	Mutton and Lamb.	Total Weight.	Total Value.	Weight.	Value.
	cwt.	carcases.	carcases.	cwt.	cwt.	£	lb.	£
1881							1,074,140	22,301
1882					15,244	19,630	4,414,864	4,920
1883	697			86,996	87,697	118,361	3,805,490	72,778
1884	1,644			253,442	254,086	341,541	4,444,144	59,254
1885	1,470			286,961	288,431	375,960	4,347,804	81,491
1886	1,891			340,405	342,296	479,170	4,422,864	47,426
1887	6,950	650,928	110,816	421,405	428,035	543,449	4,440,000	79,240
1888	44,013	887,543	94,681	507,200	551,270	629,451	4,845,344	86,258
1889	84,708	808,486	118,734	588,974	659,522	788,174	7,242,152	130,782
1890	108,234	1,459,176	270,741	708,142	836,859	1,084,882	7,447,552	130,182
1891	105,087	1,447,583	456,644	880,040	992,540	1,284,194	6,141,804	111,783
1892	56,000	1,166,758	390,886	806,864	893,424	1,084,884	6,836,712	106,470
1893	11,050	1,346,447	427,365	888,442	899,144	1,078,977	7,444,448	4,600,
1894	9,912	1,683,418	459,948	1,001,344	1,002,254	1,162,[illegible]	7,[illegible]48,[illegible]	57,[illegible]26
1895	12,000	1,644,500	736,264	1,078,640	1,090,640	1,[illegible]4,776	4,[illegible]4,400	66,147
1896	25,[illegible]6	1,[illegible]880	792,047	1,[illegible]2,282	1,[illegible]95,165	1,[illegible]4,[illegible]6	[illegible]88,488	75,[illegible]61
1897	50,[illegible]16	1,[illegible]7[illegible]	1,[illegible]18,[illegible]16	1,291,582	1,341,998	1,[illegible]2,[illegible]9	7,[illegible]4[illegible]6	78,[illegible]85
1898	66,[illegible]18	1,711,[illegible]82	1,[illegible]06,883	1,[illegible]8,[illegible]16	1,[illegible]48,[illegible]96	1,[illegible]80,[illegible]4[illegible]	6,[illegible]2[illegible]2	9,[illegible]97
1899	73,[illegible]55	2,[illegible]2,[illegible]53	1,272,525	1,567,439	1,[illegible]29,784	1,906,464	5,[illegible]2,272	90,[illegible]10

carcase sheep, and the pastoralists have become alive to the importance of securing a share of the meat trade of the United Kingdom. Attention is being directed to the introduction of British rams into the colony, and a large increase in the cross-bred flocks has already taken place. Up to the present, however, the cross-bred carcases sent by New South Wales to England have not been kept apart from the merino, and have therefore failed to return the higher prices which might have been expected. The attention of the freezing companies has been directed to this point, but so far without effect. The following table shows the growth of the frozen meat trade of New South Wales, the exports of preserved meat consist almost wholly of tinned mutton:

Year	Frozen or Chilled Meat.				Preserved Meat	
	Beef	Mutton.	Total Weight.	Total Value.	Weight.	Value.
	quarters.	carcases.	cwt.	£	lb.	£
1881	...	.. ..	9,980	8,554	. . . . ..	*176,721
1882	. .	... .	13,782	22,910	.. . . . .	*143,601
1883	.. ..	....	34,911	43,100	.	*221,912
1884	..	.. ..	13,309	12,321	... . . .	*161,477
1885	... ..	. .....	6,271	6,064	. .	*166,561
1886	.. ..	. .. . .	4,852	4,671	.. ....	*77,750
1887	.. .	. . ...	21,831	19,310	9,761,154	150,714
1888	. ..	.. . . .	52,262	44,537	4,528,269	69,461
1889	.. ...	. .. ..	37,868	33,426	2,877,303	52,321
1890	. .	.. . .	72,304	71,534	4,055,523	74,329
1891	.. ...	... .	105,013	101,828	6,581,713	87,632
1892		. . .	223,074	169,425	8,020,747	105,922
1893	4,773	364,958	220,584	141,640	13,092,942	164,592
1894	9,538	533,995	339,404	193,760	16,382,597	206,054
1895	88,719	1,021,606	607,818	380,107	22,384,285	302,828
1896	16,286	1,372,373	642,188	343,397	16,351,936	218,292
1897	28,529	1,065,990	503,925	275,118	10,903,611	147,105
1898	39,593	1,095,568	539,495	330,325	13,930,801	227,285
1899	32,855	956,222	459,553	331,904	11,453,332	185,804

* Including Extract of Meat.

The total capacity of the boiling-down works in New South Wales is stated at 633,900 head of cattle or 16,965,000 sheep; of chilling works, 188,500 head of cattle or 5,422,800 sheep; of freezing works, 76,500 head of cattle or 3,150,000 sheep; and of meat preserving works, 183,000 head of cattle or 5,445,000 sheep.

		lb
		4,026,07[illegible]
		1,274,06[illegible]
		3,225,65[illegible]
		2,567,[illegible]
		1,486,849
		616,652
		629,054
		714,856
		805,58[illegible]
		893,114
		1,052,887
		1,982,151
		777,953
		2,267,791
		2,417,730
		4,355,511
		1,[illegible],315
		2,[illegible]
		[illegible]

preserved meat, and it is estimated that 130,000 to 150,000 head are annually so disposed of, leaving about 250,000 head, of age fit for market, which it is unprofitable to keep beyond their present age. These comprise the real "surplus" difficulty of the colonies, and it is a question for experts to determine how many of the 250,000 could be utilised for export, but there seems to be abundant evidence that from 75,000 to 100,000 head of cattle could be exported in any ordinary year without trenching upon local requirements, while if the trade could be expanded without touching ruinous prices the export might be made much larger. The surplus of sheep cannot be less than 4,500,000. These figures refer to an ordinary year; in 1899, which was a year of drought, the available cast was doubtless much below the numbers quoted.

Looking at the question from all points of view, it cannot be said that the frozen-meat trade is without strong elements of hope for the future. The great difficulty in the way of an expansion of the trade is the seasons fall in prices: but there is no reason why better results should not be obtained if shippers are careful not to export anything of unsatisfactory quality, and so tend to enhance the value of Australian meat in the eyes of the British consumer. Signs are not wanting that the prejudice which existed against frozen mutton in the United Kingdom is fast dying out, and the adoption of the chilling process, by which the meat may be placed on the market with a much more attractive appearance at an extra cost of ½d. per lb., will hasten its extinction. That it is largely prejudice is made clear by the fact that a great deal of Australian mutton which is sent to London is sold to the consumer as Welsh or English.

During the years 1894 and 1895 several attempts, more or less successful, were made to place live cattle and sheep in the English market. A great difficulty in the way of establishing such a trade was the wildness of the cattle, the mortality in some of the shipments being sufficiently high to provoke strong criticism in England as to the cruelty to which the cattle were subjected by being shipped on such a long voyage. It is to be feared, however, that these expressions of opinion were prompted, not altogether by the alleged sufferings of the cattle, but to a large extent by the interests of the English producer and the American exporter. At the same time, it is clear that a permanent and profitable trade cannot be established until the cattle have been handled sufficiently to bring them into a tractable condition, for the present system of depasturing followed in Australia renders the stock too wild to endure a long stay on shipboard. Probably, however, the great strides made by the Argentine Republic in supplying the European market will make it difficult for Australian shippers to realise a satisfactory margin of profit, the near proximity of that country to Great Britain giving it an immense advantage over these colonies in the matter of freights. In view of the vast population of the United States, any increase in the export of live cattle from that country cannot be anticipated.

Dairy-farming.

Dairy-farming has of late years made fair progress in Australasia, especially in the colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, New Zealand, and, more recently, in Queensland. The introduction of the factory system at convenient centres and the use of the cream separator have done much to cause the extension of the industry. The number of dairy cows at the end of 1899, and the estimated quantity of milk produced in each colony during that year, were as follow :-

State	Dairy Cows	Quantity of Milk produced (estimated).
	No.	gallons.
New South Wales	399,327	138,564,000
Victoria	464,469	193,044,000
Queensland	131,000*	39,300,000
South Australia	84,498	28,351,000
Western Australia	22,500*	6,525,000
Tasmania	41,482	16,669,000
Commonwealth	1,143,276	422,463,000
New Zealand	343,556	138,784,000
Australasia	1,486,832	561,247,000

* Estimated.

The estimated value of the milk and its products, butter and cheese, and of the return obtained from swine, together with the total value of dairy produce for each colony in 1899, will be found below :

State.	Value of Milk, Butter and Cheese.	Value of Return from Swine.	Total Value of Dairy and Swine Produce.
	£	£	£
New South Wales	1,743,000	256,000	1,999,000
Victoria	2,491,000	420,000	2,911,000
Queensland	516,000	158,000	674,000
South Australia	365,000	102,000	467,000
Western Australia	69,000	49,000	118,000
Tasmania	157,000	57,000	214,000
Commonwealth	5,341,000	1,042,000	6,383,000
New Zealand	1,770,000	241,000	2,011,000
Australasia	7,111,000	1,283,000	8,394,000

The production of butter and cheese in each colony during 1899 is mated to have been as follows :

State.	Butter	Cheese.
	lb.	lb.
New South Wales	33,034,000	2,386,000
Victoria	53,327,000	4,513,000
Queensland	8,463,000	1,910,000
South Australia	5,581,000	947,000
Western Australia	275,000	850
Tasmania	2,094,000	628,000
Commonwealth	102,774,000	10,384,850
New Zealand	30,940,000	13,430,000
Australasia	133,714,000	23,814,850

The colonies having a surplus of butter and cheese available for portation during 1899 are shown in the following table : –

State.	Butter.	Cheese.
	lb.	lb.
New South Wales	4,549,722	
Victoria	36,226,948	638,274
Queensland	1,132,775	
South Australia	1,330,714	16,575
New Zealand	15,234,912	7,758,240
Total	58,475,071	8,413,089

New South Wales was formerly both an importer and an exporter butter, for only during the spring and early summer months was production larger than the local requirements, while during the ainder of the year butter had to be imported to meet the local and Now the colony has become an exporter of butter to the ed Kingdom on a fair scale ; but a large quantity of New Zealand er is still sent to the New South Wales markets on account of more satisfactory price realised there. There is also an importation South Australia and Victoria for the supply of the districts ent to those colonies. Queensland has only lately become an rter of butter, 1897 being the first year when the export exceeded import. The net export in that year was 179,490 lb., which in had increased to 1,132,775 lb.

to the United Kingdom during 1899 was £17,213,516, £5,503,004, and £5,044,402 respectively. The supply is chiefly drawn from the Continent of Europe and from America, and of the total amounts mentioned, the only imports from Australasia were butter to the value of £1,853,892, cheese to the value of £72,518, and eggs to the value of £2,078.

It may not be out of place to remark that in one or two of the colonies the export of butter has helped to maintain prices in the local markets, and tended to restrict home consumption. If a season of great prosperity visits Australia there will be a very large increase in the local demand, with a consequent limitation in the supply available for export, so that it may be concluded that under any circumstances the prospects of the industry are encouraging.

SWINE.

The breeding of swine is usually carried on in conjunction with dairy-farming, and the following table shows the number of swine in each colony at ten-year intervals since 1861, and in 1899. The Victorian figures in the last column refer to the year 1894, the last in which live-stock returns were collected in that colony.

State.	Number of Swine.				
	1861	1871	1881	1891	1899
New South Wales ...	146,091	213,193	213,916	253,180	239,773
Victoria	43,480	177,447	230,926	286,780	337,588
Queensland	7,465	32,707	56,438	122,672	139,118
Western Australia	69,286	95,542	120,718	83,797	84,262
South Australia..	11,984	14,265	22,530	25,930	35 953
Tasmania..	40,841	52,863	49,660	73,520	74,451
Commonwealth ..	319,147	586,017	703,188	845,885	931,145
New Zealand .	43,270	151,460	200,083	308,812	249,751
Australasia.	362,417	737,477	903,271	1,154,700	1,180,896

The production of swine should be a large factor in dairy farming, but the increase in the number of pigs has not been as large as might have been expected. In New South Wales and New Zealand the number of swine is actually less now than in 1891, while South Australia and Tasmania show very slight increases. Victoria possesses the largest number, with 28·6 per cent of the total number in Australasia; then come New Zealand and New South Wales with 21·2 per cent. and 20·3 per cent. respectively: Queensland has 11·8 per cent. of the total; South Australia, 7·7 per cent.; Tasmania, 6·3 per cent.; and Western Australia, 4·7 per cent.

[illegible] the swine—bacon, ham, lard, and salt pork—[illegible] the colonies with the exception of New S[illegible] [illegible] Australia, and Tasmania, as is shown by the follo[illegible] [illegible] to the year 1899 :—

[illegible]	Bacon and Ham.	Salt Pork.	Lard.	Net Va[illegible] export[illegible]
	£	£	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	*10,502	*12	*4,179	*14,69[illegible]
[illegible]	37,406	514	1,454	39,37[illegible]
[illegible]	30,470	208	3,190	33,86[illegible]
[illegible]	3,547	*48	...	3,49[illegible]
[illegible]	*83,854	*136	*1,146	*85,13[illegible]
[illegible]	*2,587	*43	*370	*3,00[illegible]
[illegible]	*25,520	483	*1,051	*26,0[illegible]
[illegible]	14,207	122	330	14,65[illegible]
[illegible]	*11,313	605	*721	*11,42[illegible]

* Excess of imports.

[illegible] of Victoria and Queensland small quantities of fr[illegible] [illegible] are included with salt pork There seems to be [illegible] scope for an extension of this particular branch of farmin[illegible] [illegible] the colonies.

Poultry and Minor Industries.

[illegible] estimate is given below of the value of the production of pou[illegible] [illegible] eggs, together with that arising from bee-farming, in each col[illegible] [illegible] the year 1899 :—

State.	Poultry and Eggs.	Honey and Beeswax.
	£	£
New South Wales	515,000	29,000
Victoria	466,000	7,000
Queensland	205,000	10,000
South Australia	197,000	7,000
Western Australia	131,000	2,000
Tasmania	68,000	3,000
Commonwealth	1,582,000	58,000
New Zealand	321,000	22,000
Australasia	1,903,000	80,000

The most remarkable feature is the trade in eggs between So[illegible] Australia as supplier and New South Wales, Victoria, and Wes[illegible] Australia as buyers. The returns for 1899 show that during that [illegible]

th Australia exported eggs to the value of £62,493, viz., £531 to ern, £12,573 to New South Wales, and £49,374 to Western Aus-ia. The bulk of the trade with New South Wales is transacted with Barrier district, which is commercially a dependency of South ralia.

Pastoral and Dairy Production.

The total value of pastoral and dairy production during the year 9, in each colony and in the whole of Australasia, together with the e per inhabitant, is shown in the following table:—

State.	Total Value of Pastoral and Dairy Production.	Value per Inhabitant.
	£	£ s. d.
New South Wales .. .	17,070,000	12 13 10
Victoria . .	10,[illegible]3,000	9 2 6
Queensland .	8,172,000	17 2 9
South Australia ..	3,174,000	8 12 7
Western Australia	1,120,000	6 12 1
Tasmania	972,000	5 8 1
Commonwealth . .	41,131,000	11 2 2
New Zealand	10,061,000	13 8 3
Australasia	51,172,000	11 6 10

The following table gives similar information for the years 1871, [illegible]81, and shows that in point of total value of production [illegible] Wales, Queensland, Western Australia, and New Zealand [illegible] most satisfactory progress, while in Victoria, South Australia, and Tasmania the pastoral industry has advanced much more slowly:

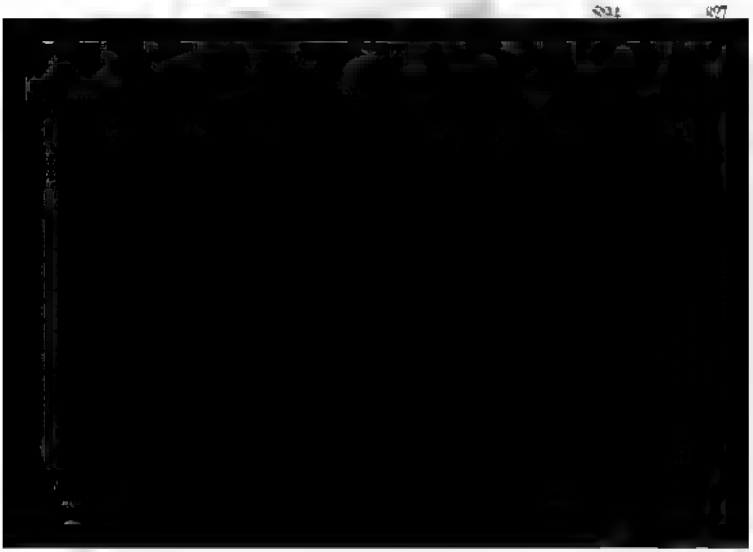
State.	1871	1881	1891
	£	£	£
New South Wales	8,700,000	13,151,000	17,460,000
Victoria . .	7,200,000	7,491,000	9,321,000
Queensland . .	1,950,000	4,186,000	7,561,400
South Australia . .	1,800,000	3,178,000	3,148,525
Western Australia .	274,000	431,000	647,350
Tasmania	734,000	1,003,000	1,117,550
Commonwealth ..	20,736,000	29,538,000	39,255,825
New Zealand	3,210,000	7,050,000	9,153,225
Australasia — Total .	23,946,000	36,634,000	48,409,050
Australasia — Per head.	£ s. d. 12 7 7	£ s. d. 13 3 11	£ s. d. 12 12 0

Comparing the two preceding tables, it will be seen that although the [illegible] has more than doubled since 1871 the value per [illegible] has [illegible] increased. In 1899 the value of pastoral and dairy [illegible] was nearly £3,000,000 higher than in 1891; but to a g[illegible] extent this was due to the high prices obtained last year for the princ[illegible] articles of pastoral produce: for owing to the continued dry seasons [illegible] production of wool was very much less, and the cast of both sheep [illegible] cattle was reduced as compared with 1891. On the other hand, [illegible] production of butter was larger, and also the export of meat, as will [illegible] below:—

[illegible]	1891.	1899.
Wool, as in grease	Lb. 661,229,000	632,020,000
Cast of sheep	No. 17,000,000	11,611,000
Cast of cattle	No. 1,216,000	1,196,000
Butter produced	Lb. 70,625,000	133,714,000
Meat, export	Cwt. 1,454,000	3,390,000

The movement in prices will be seen from the following tabulation which is based chiefly on an analysis of the New South Wales trade. The prices of 1899 are represented by 1,000:—

[illegible]	Price Levels of—				
[illegible]	Wool.	Meat.	Hides.	Tallow.	Hides.
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]



AGRICULTURE.

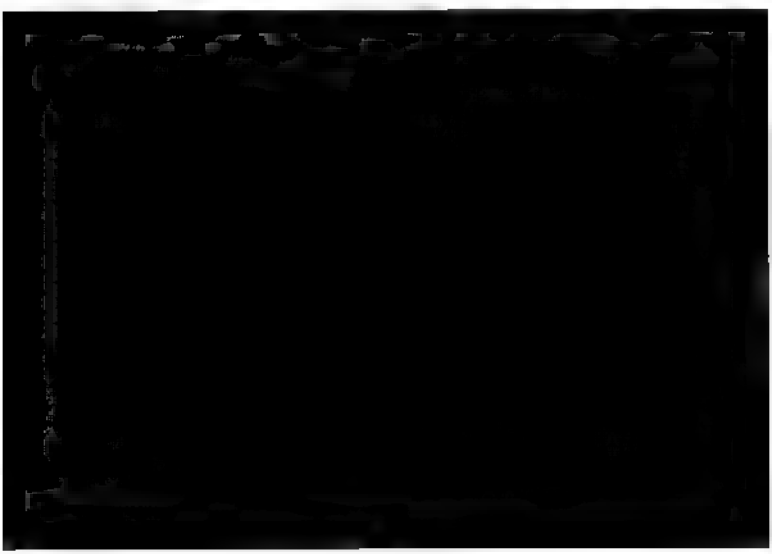
TAKEN as a whole, Australasia may be said to be in the first phase of agricultural settlement; indeed, several colonies have not yet emerged from the pastoral stage. Nevertheless the value of agricultural produce, estimated at farm prices, is considerable, and amounts to nearly 40 per cent. of the value of the pastoral and dairy produce. The return from agriculture in each colony for the season 1899-1900 was approximately as shown below:—

State	Total value of Crops	Average Value of Produce per acre	Proportion of Total Value
	£	£ s. d.	per cent.
New South Wales	5,582,000	2 5 9	22·11
Victoria	6,435,000	2 0 9	25·49
Queensland	1,848,000	4 7 11	7·32
South Australia	2,568,000	1 2 10	10·17
Western Australia	500,000	2 13 8	1·98
Tasmania	996,000	4 8 6	3·95
Commonwealth	17,929,000	2 1 5	71·02
New Zealand	7,318,000	4 4 6	28·98
Australasia	25,247,000	2 8 7	100·00

From this estimate it would seem that the value of crops per acre cultivated is much larger in Queensland and Tasmania than in the other colonies, a fact which is due to the proportionately large area under sugar-cane in the former colony, while in Tasmania the area devoted to fruit and hops, and the higher returns of cereals, account for the high average per acre which that province shows. In Western Australia, where the greater part of the produce consumed is imported, prices are higher than in the Eastern colonies, and the small area devoted to the plough returns on an average a better price per acre than in the colonies where agriculture has received greater attention. In point of gross value New Zealand

occupies the first position among the members of the group, the pro of that province having a value considerably in excess of one-four that of all Australasia. Victoria also produces over one-fourth of total, and New South Wales nearly one-fourth. The value of principal crops, and the percentage of each to the total production given in the following statement :—

Name of Crop.	Value.	Proportion to Total.
	£	per cent.
[illegible]	6,382,000	25·3
[illegible]	1,233,000	4·7
[illegible]	618,000	2·5
[illegible]	2,165,000	8·6
[illegible]	6,010,000	23·8
[illegible]	335,000	1·4
[illegible]	1,378,000	5·5
[illegible]	935,000	3·7
[illegible]	67,000	0·3
[illegible]	18,000	0·1
[illegible]	619,000	2·5
[illegible]	2,024,000	8·0
[illegible]	518,000	2·1
[illegible]	2,895,000	11·5
[illegible]	25,247,000	100·0



...ces for a large portion of its wheat supply, has become almost able to produce enough to meet its own requirements.

State.	Average value per head. £ s. d.
New South Wales	4 3 0
Victoria	5 10 9
Queensland	3 17 6
South Australia	6 19 7
Western Australia	2 19 0
Tasmania	5 10 10
Commonwealth	4 16 11
New Zealand	9 13 2
Australasia	5 13 5

Below will be found the value of the agricultural production of the colonies in the years 1871, 1881, and 1891. Comparing these figures with those for 1899 given above, it will be seen that while the total production of Australasia is now nearly £5,000,000 more than in 1881, the average value per head has declined nearly 25 per cent., and that, compared with 1891, the value per head is lower. As subsequent figures will show, the great lowering of prices, and not want of productiveness, is responsible for this decline in values. The fall in prices, especially the prices of wheat, was very rapid down to 1895; for the next three years there was a very material increase, but in 1899 they fell again to the 1895 level.

State.	1871.	1881.	1891.
	£	£	£
New South Wales	2,220,000	3,830,000	3,584,500
Victoria	3,300,000	5,894,000	7,009,100
Queensland	650,000	1,283,000	1,414,000
South Australia	1,780,000	3,283,000	3,047,000
Western Australia	278,000	348,000	380,300
Tasmania	724,000	981,000	1,646,300
Commonwealth	8,941,000	15,519,000	16,480,000
New Zealand	1,955,000	4,650,000	5,518,000
Australasia — Total	10,896,000	20,169,000	21,998,000
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Australasia — Per head ...	5 12 8	7 5 3	5 14 6

Compared with the principal countries of the world, Australasia does not take a high position in regard to the gross value of the produce of tillage, but in value per inhabitant it compares fairly well; indeed,

some of the colonies, such as New Zealand, Tasmania, and South Australia, show averages which surpass those of many of the leading agricultural countries. This may be partly seen from the following table, which gives approximately for 1891-95 the value of agricultural production in the principal countries of the world, with the average amount per head of population :—

Countries.	Value in millions.	Per head.	Countries.	Value in millions.	Per head.
	£	£		£	£
United Kingdom	126	3·2	Holland	18	4·0
France	284	7·3	Belgium	29	4·6
Germany	262	5·1	Switzerland	9	3·0
Russia	370	3·5	United States	487	7·7
Austria	210	5·7	Canada	33	6·9
Italy	141	4·6	Cape Colony	2	1·3
Spain	94	5·5	Argentina	[illegible]	6·0
Portugal	18	4·0	Uruguay	2	2·7
Sweden	20	4·9			
Norway	3	1·7			
Denmark	19	8·6	Australasia (1899)	25	5·7

Area under Cultivation.

The following figures, giving the total extent of land in cultivation in each of the colonies at different periods since the year 1861, will serve to illustrate the progress which agriculture has made. In this table, and in the others which follow, the years 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891, and 1899 embrace the period from the 1st April in each of those years to the 31st March in the following year :—

State.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1899.
	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.
New South Wales	265,389	390,099	578,243	846,383	2,440,96[illegible]
Victoria	410,406	851,354	1,435,446	2,116,654	3,155,05[illegible]
Queensland	4,440	59,969	117,664	242,629	420,74[illegible]
South Australia	400,717	837,730	2,156,407	1,927,689	2,238,24[illegible]
Western Australia	24,705	51,724	53,353	64,209	186,39[illegible]
Tasmania	163,385	155,046	148,494	168,121	225,12[illegible]
Commonwealth	1,269,042	2,345,922	4,489,607	5,365,685	8,666,52[illegible]
New Zealand	68,506	337,282	1,070,906	1,424,777	1,732,75[illegible]
Australasia	1,337,548	2,683,204	5,560,513	6,790,462	10,399.27[illegible]

The following table shows the increase in area, and the proportional rly increase in cultivation, in each colony during the period of thirty e years under review :—

State.	Increase in area from 1861 to 1890.	Rate of Increase of acreage per annum.
	acres.	per cent
New South Wales	2,175,579	5 9
Victoria	2,744,645	5·4
Queensland	116,306	12 4
South Australia	1,837 523	4 5
Western Australia	161,691	5·3
Tasmania	61,741	0 8
Commonwealth	7,397,485	5 0
New Zealand	1,664,246	8 6
Australasia	9,061,731	5·4

Thus, although the provinces of Victoria, South Australia, New aland, and New South Wales have during this period provided the est increase in the area of land cultivated, Queensland shows a much ater proportional increase, while agriculture in Tasmania has relatively population remained almost stationary. Taking Australasia as a ole, it will be seen that the area under crop is now almost eight es as large as it was in 1861. If, however, the land artificially ed be included, the total will come to 21,953,051 acres, or more than teen times the area in cultivation in 1861. A comparison of the age under crop on the basis of population, which is afforded by the e given below, may perhaps best serve to give an idea of the progress griculture ; and it will be seen that, on this basis, the greatest ance since 1891 has been made by New South Wales :

State.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1890.
	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.
South Wales	0·7	0 8	0 8	0·7	1 8
oria	0·8	1·1	1·7	1·8	2 7
nsland	0·1	0·5	0·5	0 6	0 9
Australia	3·2	4·5	7·5	5 9	6 0
ern Australia	1·6	2·0	1·8	1·2	1·4
ania	1 8	1·5	1·2	1·1	1·2
Commonwealth	1·1	1·4	2·0	1·6	2 3
Zealand	0·7	1·3	2·1	2 2	2 3
Australasia	1·1	1·4	2·0	1·7	2 5

ersons per square mile, with Western Australia, which has only inhabitant to the square mile. The table has a value chiefly e it shows how each province has progressed in cultivation of il during the periods quoted :—

State.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891	1899.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
outh Wales ...	0·15	0·20	0 29	0·44	1·23
ia	0·73	1·51	2 55	3·76	5·61
land	0·001	0·01	0·03	0·06	0·98
Australia . . .	0·07	0·15	0·37	0 33	0·39
n Australia	0·006	0·008	0·009	0·01	0·03
nia	0·97	0·92	0·88	0·99	1·34
mmonwealth . .	0·07	0·12	0·24	0 28	0 46
ealand....	0·10	0·50	1·60	2 13	2 59
stralasia...	0·07	0·14	0 28	0 34	0 53

subjoined table shows the proportion of cultivated area devoted to incipal crops in each province. It will be seen that wheat forms e largest percentage of the total tillage in Australasia as a whole, n New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, and Western alia. Maize and sugar-cane are the principal crops in Queens land oats in New Zealand. In Tasmania only 28·6 per cent. of tivated area is under wheat, which, however, is still the principal of the colony

Crop.	New South Wales	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand	Australasia
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
	58·4	68·6	12·5	81·6	45 4	28·6	1·6	46·7
	8·8	0·3	26 2		0 1	0 1	1·0	3 4
	0 3	2·5	1 8	0·7	2 1	3 4	2 8	1·6
..	1·9	5·6	0·2	0·0	2 1	20·0	23·6	7 4
	1 4	1 8	3·6	0·4	1 6	12·0	2 1	1·7
	22·7	14 3	14·0	15·0	48·3	18 5	14·0	15·9
	0·4	0·9	0·5	0·0	1 7	.. .	....	0·6
.	0·9	..	26 3	. ..	.	....	...	1 3
...	5·9	3·0	10·0	1·9	4·8	17 1	41·5	12·4
....	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0

The position in which each of the principal agricultural products st in relation to the total area under crop in Australasia, at various peri since the year 1861, may be ascertained from the following table. ' figures should, however, be taken in conjunction with those giving actual areas cultivated, for a decline in the proportion of land under particular crop does not necessarily mean a falling-off in the area devo to that product; on the contrary, in few instances has there been actual retrogression. It is satisfactory to observe that there is a grea proportionate increase in the cultivation of the more valuable crops, that, despite checks from causes due to unfavourable seasons, the a devoted to vines, sugar-cane, and "other crops" formed 14·3 per c of the whole in 1899, as compared with 8·6 per cent. in 1861 :—

Product.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1899.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
Wheat	53·6	51·4	60·7	55·0	56·6
Oats	10·6	13·5	7·9	8·4	7·4
Maize	4·6	5·3	3·0	4·3	3·4
Barley	2·2	2·3	1·9	1·4	1·6
Potatoes	4·2	3·0	1·8	2·0	1·7
Hay	16·2	11·9	15·1	16·0	15·0
Vines	0·5	0·7	0·3	0·7	0·6
Sugar-cane	.	0·5	0·7	1·1	1·3
Other crops	8·1	11·4	8·6	11·1	12·4
Total	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0

Wheat.

Only three of the seven colonies—Victoria, South Australia, and N Zealand—produce sufficient wheat for their own requirements; althou during the last two years Tasmania has had a surplus, and in 1 New South Wales produced enough for home consumption. But al the deficiencies of the rest of Australasia are supplied by the three abo named colonies, there is in most seasons a large balance for exp which finds a ready market in Great Britain, where Australian wh is well and favourably known. For the season 1899–1900, altho

a larger area was sown than at any previous period, protracted drought, coupled with unseasonable rainfall, had the effect of greatly curtailing the production. Taking Australasia as a whole, there was a net export of breadstuffs, during 1899, equivalent to 14,557,709 bushels of grain, valued at £1,843,300.

The subjoined table shows the progress of wheat-growing during the period of the last thirty-nine years:—

State.	1861	1871	1881	1891	1899
	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.
New South Wales .	123,468	164,030	221,888	356,666	1,426,160
Victoria . .	196,922	334,609	926,729	1,332,683	2,165,693
Queensland	392	3,024	10,958	19,306	52,527
South Australia	310,636	692,508	1,768,781	1,552,423	1,821,137
Western Australia .	13,584	25,697	21,951	26,866	84,516
Tasmania	58,823	63,332	51,757	47,584	64,328
Commonwealth.	703,825	1,273,200	3,002,064	3,335,528	5,614,367
New Zealand	29,531	108,720	365,715	402,273	269,749
Australasia	733,356	1,381,920	3,367,779	3,737,801	5,884,116

It will be seen that, during the twenty years extending from 1861 to 1881, all the colonies, with the exception of Tasmania, made considerable additions to the area under wheat, the increase for the whole of Australasia being 2,634,423 acres, or an advance of 359 per cent. From 1881 to 1899 the extension of this form of cultivation has not been so general, most of the increase in area having taken place during the last few seasons, in consequence of the rise in the prices of wheat which was taken advantage of by the agriculturists of all the colonies. New Zealand is the only province which shows a decrease. In Australasia, as a whole, the increase in area since 1881 amounts to 2,516,337 acres, and of this total 2,443,242 acres have been added in New South Wales and Victoria. In New South Wales, especially, rapid advance has been made, while in South Australia and New Zealand part of the land which were abandoned as wheat lands has again been placed under the cereal. At present more than one-half of the land in cultivation is devoted to wheat-growing, and in an ordinary season the produce of 5,000 acres is available for export to Europe.

As a producer of wheat, Australasia is of little account when viewed in comparison with the great wheat-producing countries of the world. According to the estimate published by the United States Department of Agriculture, the production of wheat in Europe, America, Asia, and Africa in 1899 was 2,586,884,000 bushels, which, with the 48,580,000 bushels yielded by Australasia, gives the world's production as 2,635,464,000 bushels, and the seven colonies, therefore, only produced 1·8 per cent of the total crop. The figures for each country are appended, the production being represented in Imperial bushels.

Country	Bushels.	Country	Bushels.
Europe—		Africa—	
Russia	381,693,000	Algeria	14,538,000
France	354,804,000	Egypt	13,569,000
Hungary	144,954,000	Tunis	4,752,000
Germany	137,015,000	Cape Colony	1,938,000
Italy	133,664,000		
Spain	85,293,000	Total	34,097,000
United Kingdom	67,190,000		
Austria	40,950,000		
Roumania	25,261,000	America—	
Bulgaria	23,261,000	United States	530,447,000
Turkey	14,538,000	Argentine Republic	89,328,000
Prussia	12,918,000	Canada	58,113,000
Servia	8,422,000	Mexico	14,538,000
Portugal	6,267,000	Chile	12,080,000
Sweden and Norway	4,545,000	Uruguay	6,944,000
Holland	4,168,000		
Switzerland	4,070,000	Total	711,970,000
Denmark	3,392,000		
Greece	1,938,000		
		Australasia—	
Total	1,453,416,000	Victoria	15,438,000
		New South Wales	13,676,000
Asia—		New Zealand	8,582,000
India	225,422,000	South Australia	5,473,000
Russia in Asia	90,534,000	Tasmania	1,101,000
Turkey	34,116,000	Western Australia	987,000
Japan	19,384,000	Queensland	615,000
Persia	15,507,000		
Cyprus	1,938,000	Total	48,580,000
Total	386,901,000	Grand Total	2,635,564,000

The yield of wheat per acre during the season 1899-1900 ranged from 4·64 bushels in South Australia to 31·81 bushels in New Zealand, but taken on the whole was not very satisfactory, on account of the drought which generally prevailed throughout the continent. With the exception of Western Australia and New Zealand, the yield was below the average for the last ten years. The yields in New Zealand during the last two seasons were much higher than in any of the

preceding eight years. On the other hand, the decennial averages most of the other colonies have been reduced through the drou which has continued for the last five years. The average yield per a for each colony for 1899 and during the ten years 1890–99 are sho below :—

State.	Average Yield per acre.	
	1899.	1890-99.
	bushels.	bushels.
New South Wales	9·54	9·95
Victoria	7·04	8·07
Queensland	11·70	15·53
South Australia	4·64	4·69
Western Australia	11·68	10·95
Tasmania	17·12	19·05
Commonwealth	7·12	7·33
New Zealand	31·81	24·61
Australasia	8·26	8·49

A yield of 8·5 bushels per acre is a very small one when compa with the following results obtained in some of the principal wh growing countries of the world. The averages shown are mostly ba on the yields during the five years 1894–98 :—

Country.	Average Yield per acre.	Country.	Average Yield per acre.
	bushels.		bushels.
United Kingdom	30·9	United States	13·2
Germany	25·7	India	12·1
France	18·6	Russia	9·3
Hungary	16·8*	Argentine Republic	9·3

A bare statement of averages, however, is somewhat mislead In South Australia, for example, it is found that owing to favour conditions of culture a yield of 7 bushels is financially as satisfact a crop as one of 15 bushels in New South Wales or of 20 bus in New Zealand. In the Australasian colonies the yield could greatly increased if cultivation of a more scientific character w adopted. As a rule, the seed is simply put into the ground, and li is done to assist the natural growth of the crops.

The total value of the wheat crop for 1899-1900 and the value of the return per acre in each colony are shown below :—

State.	Value of Production.	Value per Acre.
	£	£ s. d.
New South Wales	1,784,400	1 5 0
Victoria	2,031,800	0 18 9
Queensland	87,300	1 13 3
South Australia	1,124,300	0 12 4
Western Australia	148,100	1 15 1
Tasmania	133,300	2 1 5
Commonwealth	5,309,200	0 18 11
New Zealand	1,072,800	3 19 6
Australasia	6,382,000	1 1 8

The very high value returned in New Zealand is due to the rather small area under cultivation, and to the phenomenal yield of grain; values in Tasmania, Western Australia, and Queensland also appear for similar reasons.

A detailed table of the value of the yield per acre during each of the last ten years is shown below for the three principal wheat-growing colonies—New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia. The values are estimated on the basis of the market rates ruling in January and March of each year. It will be seen that a considerable fall took place between 1891 and 1895, due for the most part to the low prices rather than to any decrease of production. The effect of the rise in prices is seen in the more satisfactory results in New South Wales during the seasons ending March, 1896, 1897, and 1898; for Victoria and South Australia the drought is largely responsible for the low values in those years :—

Year ending March.	Average Yield per acre.			Value of Average Yield per acre.								
	New South Wales.	Victoria.	South Australia.	New South Wales.			Victoria.			South Australia.		
	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1891	10·9	11·1	5·6	2	0	10	1	19	9	0	19	7
1892	14·1	10·3	4·3	2	2	6	2	2	3	0	17	11
1893	15·1	11·0	6·1	2	5	2	1	14	0	0	19	3
1894	11·0	10·4	7·9	1	10	1	1	0	1	0	18	4
1895	10·9	8·3	4·9	1	4	6	0	13	6	0	8	0
1896	8·7	4·0	4·2	1	17	0	0	17	9	0	19	10
1897	10·2	4·5	1·7	2	3	5	1	3	8	0	8	7
1898	10·6	6·4	2·6	2	4	2	1	6	2	0	11	3
1899	7·0	9·1	4·9	0	19	0	0	19	9	0	13	7
1900	9·5	7·0	4·6	1	5	0	0	18	9	0	12	4

[illegible] the average consumption w
[illegible] quantity consumed in a
[illegible] are available, with the

[illegible] net imports or exports
[illegible] year 1899, 1 ton
[illegible] The exporting
[illegible] Tasmania. Sin
[illegible] supply the wheat req
[illegible] was actually independe
[illegible] was again necessary.
[illegible] produced enough wh
[illegible] available for exp

	Net Imports.	Net Ex
	bushels.	bush
	2,126,453	.....
	.....	10,635

records for the six states which form the Commonwealth show ince 1879 there were only four years during which they were to import wheat from places outside their boundaries These were 1886, 1889, 1896, and 1897. In the first-named year the crop was a partial failure in Victoria and South Australia, and a complete failure in New South Wales and Queensland In there was a general failure in New South Wales and Victoria. 96 the crop failed in Victoria, and in the following year, that y for the first time in twenty-two years was compelled to import , the net import, however, being only 61,160 bushels. The ing statement gives the figures for the Commonwealth for the y years since 1880:

	Wheat Crop.	Net Export of Breadstuffs.	Year	Wheat Crop.	Net Export of Breadstuffs.
	bushels.	bushels		bushels.	bushels.
.....	28,730,159	11,594,381	1890	34,039,289	8,886,170
.....	23,438,161	7,988,161	1891	27,118,259	10,646,298
...	21,378,009	5,751,130	1892 ..	25,675,265	4,126,538
....	21,492,565	4,742,290	1893	32,759,693	8,829,941
...	35,714,456	17,130,843	1894	36,929,947	11,016,782
...	30,559 080	11,583,644	1895	30,855,812	6,774,377
...	20.165,988	(—) 603,532	1896 .	19,537,726	(—) 4,347,168
...	28,899,220	4,265,924	1897	20,880,479	( ) 3,641,306
...	35,930,607	10,043,673	1898	28,241,409	1,341,596
...	19,757,509	(—) 2,107.136	1899 ..	41,417,853	11,581,198

(—) denotes excess of imports.

ordinary seasons Australasia ranks about sixth amongst the ing countries; still, its contribution to the world's markets does rm more than one-thirtieth of the demand, and it cannot, there- be said to form a factor of any consequence in the trade.

United Kingdom is the largest importer of wheat, and the British ad largely influences the price throughout the world. The average on prices per quarter of 8 bushels during the last decennial period as follow:

Year.	Price per quarter	Year.	Price per quarter
	s. d.		s. d.
1890	31 11	1895	23 1
1891	37 0	1896	26 2
1892	30 3	1897	30 2
1893	26 4	1898	34 0
1894	22 10	1899	25 8

Oats.

The cultivation of oats, which come next to wheat in importance as a grain crop, is increasing in Australasia, as the following figures show:

State.	1861.	1871.	1881	1891.	189
	acres.	acres	acres	acres	acres
New South Wales	7,224	13,795	16,348	12,958	29,125
Victoria	91,061	175,944	146,995	190,157	271,25
Queensland	69	131	88	715	71
South Australia	1,638	3,586	3,023	12,637	20,22
Western Australia	507	1,474	827	1,301	3,90
Tasmania	29,022	29,631	27,535	28,369	45,10
Commonwealth	129,521	224,561	194,816	246,128	37 38
New Zealand	15,872	139,185	243,387	323,508	398,24
Australasia	145,393	363,746	438,203	569,636	768,641

The colony of New Zealand furnishes considerably more than one-half of the production of oats. In New South Wales the cultivation of the cereal has been comparatively neglected. In Victoria and Tasmania, however, it is next to wheat in importance; whilst in Queensland, South Australia, and Western Australia the climate is ill-adapted to the cultivation of oats, and the yield is small and counts for very little in the total production of the grain. The total yield in each colony for the period covered by the preceding table was as follows:—

State.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891	189
	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels
New South Wales	152,426	280,887	350,566	276,259	627
Victoria	2,136,430	3,290,889	3,612,111	4,412,730	6,110
Queensland			1,121	16,669	11
South Australia	33,160	38,894	32,219	80,876	21
Western Australia	5,162	28,330	8,270	18,580	7
Tasmania	751,475	593,477	783,129	873,173	1,148
Commonwealth	3,081,653	4,241,477	4,703,416	5,678,246	8,194,709
New Zealand	512,665	3,726,810	6,924,848	11,009,020	16,725,832
Australasia	3,594,318	7,968,287	11,718,264	16,687,266	24,920,541

The average yield per acre in each colony in 1899, and during the 10 years 1890–99 are shown below :—

State	Average yield per acre	
	1899.	1890-99
	bushels	bushels.
New South Wales	21·6	19·4
Victoria	22·5	9·6
Queensland	15·0	18·1
South Australia	10·8	8·1
Western Australia	18·7	16·6
Tasmania	25·5	28·3
Commonwealth	22·1	20·0
New Zealand	41·0	32·8
Australasia	31·9	26·6

Of the colonies which grow oats to any extent Tasmania was the only one whose yield last year was below the decennial average. New Zealand had the very high average of 41 bushels per acre, which compares more than favourably with the averages which prevailed during 1894–98 in the following principal oat growing countries of the world :

Country.	Average yield per acre	Country	Average yield per acre
	bushels.		bushels.
United Kingdom	40·0	United States	26·3
Germany	35·0	France	26·0
Canada	31·1	Austria	19·8
Hungary	27·0	Russia, in Europe	14·9

The total value of the oats crop and the return per acre, in each of the Australasian colonies, for the season 1899–1900, will be found below :—

State.	Value	Value per acre.
	£	£ s. d.
New South Wales	75,800	2 12 1
Victoria	526,000	1 18 9
Queensland	1,300	1 16 5
South Australia	22,700	1 2 5
Western Australia	7,300	1 17 1
Tasmania	95,300	2 2 3
Commonwealth	728,400	1 19 4
New Zealand	1,436,600	3 12 2
Australasia	2,165,000	2 16 4

The net import or export of oats by each of the colonies is given the following table. New Zealand was the only province which expo this cereal to any considerable extent in 1899, although Tasmania Victoria also exported fairly large quantities. Owing to the war South Africa, a large demand for oats as horse-feed was created in t country, and altogether 753,470 bushels, valued at £66,000, w exported from New Zealand, Tasmania, and Victoria. New Zeal also exported 693,281 bushels to the United Kingdom :—

State.	Net Imports.	Net Exports.
	bushels.	bushels.
New South Wales	1,690,912	
Victoria		377,925
Queensland	186,333	
South Australia	306,200	
Western Australia	755,499	
Tasmania		910,106
Commonwealth	1,650,913	
New Zealand		3,515,909
Australasia		1,864,996

According to a carefully-compiled estimate of the average produc of oats throughout the world, issued by the Agricultural Departm of the United States, the commercial supply of this grain in 189 represented by the following condensed results :—

	Bushels.
Europe	2,102,942,000
North America	897,412,000
Asia	83,988,000
Africa	4,453,000
Australasia	24,521,000
Total	3,113,316,000

Maize.

Maize is, next to sugar-cane, the principal crop grown in Queensl and is one of the most important products of New South Wales. the other colonies the climate is not suited to its growth, and the cul tion of the cereal extends to not quite 29,000 acres. The follo

figures show that fair progress has been made since 1861 in the area devoted to this crop :—

State.	1861.	1871.	1881	1891.	1899.
	acres	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.
New South Wales	57,959	119,956	117,478	174,577	214,697
Victoria .. .	1,714	1,709	1,783	8,230	11,037
Queensland	1,914	20,329	46,480	101,598	110,489
Other colonies .	91	113	36	23	266
Commonwealth	61,678	142,107	165,777	284,428	336,489
New Zealand	770	.....	3,177	5,447	17,429
Australasia	62,448	142,107	168,954	289,875	353,918

The production in the same years was as follows :

State.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1899.
	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.
New South Wales	1,727,434	4,015,973	4,330,956	5,721,700	5,976,022
Victoria .	20,788	30,833	81 007	481,447	624,844
Queensland .	42,100	508,000	1,313,655	3,077,915	1,965,598
Other colonies	367	2,000	648	483	2,263
Commonwealth	1,790,689	4,556,806	5,726,266	9,261,551	8,568,727
New Zealand .	31,570	.	127,257	238,746	669,896
Australasia ...	1,822,259	4,556,806	5,853,523	9,500,297	9,238,623

The following table shows the average yield of each colony and of Australasia for 1899, and for the ten years ended 1899 :

State.	Average yield per acre.	
	1899.	1890-99.
	bushels.	bushels.
New South Wales	27·8	29·9
Victoria	56·6	52 1
Queensland	17 8	24 1
Western Australia	17·0	18 2
Commonwealth	25 5	28 6
New Zealand	38·4	42·0
Australasia	26 1	28 9

is rather curious that the principal maize-growing colonies, New h Wales and Queensland, were the only ones to import maize to any nt. In this part of the world corn does not enter into consumption n article of food, as it does in other countries, and particularly in rica, which produces and consumes more than 80 per cent. of the le maize crop of the world, as the following figures for 1899—piled on the authority of the Department of Agriculture in the ted States will show :—

	bushels.
North America	1,985,276,000
South America	67,778,000
Europe	457,111,000
Africa	33,335,000
Australasia	9,239,000
Total	2,552,739,000

Barley.

f the cereal productions of Australasia, barley is grown on the lest acreage. The area under this crop at different periods was as ws :—

State.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1899.
	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.
South Wales.	2,924	3,461	6,427	4,459	7,154
oria	3,419	16,772	48,652	45,021	79,573
nsland	13	971	256	739	7,474
h Australia	10,637	17,225	11,953	11,461	15,767
ern Australia	2,412	5,083	3,679	3,738	3,885
mania	7,279	4,275	4,597	2,650	7,606
Commonwealth	26,684	47,787	75,564	68,068	121,459
Zealand	3,457	13,305	29,808	24,268	48,003
Australasia	30,141	61,092	105,372	92,336	169,462

al production of 816,391,000 bushels by the world in 1899 Australia contributed only 3,690,000 bushels. In fruitful seasons Australasia oduces sufficient barley, exclusive of that required for malt, for home uirements, and a small surplus for export; but if the combined trade barley and malt be considered, all the colonies, with the exception of toria, Tasmania, and New Zealand, are dependent upon external rces. The high import duties in Victoria on both these articles ctically prohibit importations. The trade in barley and malt of each ony in 1899 was as follows: –

State.	Barley.		Malt.	
	Net Imports.	Net Exports.	Net Imports.	Net Exports.
	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.
w South Wales	115,966		422,272	
toria		5,480		16,070
nsland	57,933		127,411	
th Australia		3,700	18,424	
tern Australia	20,587		140,989	
mania		1,864	500	
Commonwealth	183,442		693,526	
w Zealand		125,437		172,511
Australasia	58,005		521,015	

The total value of the barley crop and the average return of this eal per acre during the season 1899-1900 will be found below: –

State.	Total value of barley crop.	Average value per acre.
	£	£ s. d.
New South Wales	16,000	2 4 9
Victoria	276,000	3 9 4
Queensland	20,300	2 14 4
South Australia	33,000	2 1 10
Western Australia	9,900	2 11 0
Tasmania	25,000	3 5 9
Commonwealth	380,200	3 2 7
New Zealand	237,800	4 19 1
Australasia	618,000	3 12 11

The average production of potatoes per acre is next given, for 1899, and for the ten years ended 1899. New Zealand, it will be seen, shows a considerably larger return than any of the other provinces :—

State.	Average Yield per Acre.	
	1899.	1890-99.
	tons.	tons.
New South Wales	2·3	2·6
Victoria	3·1	3·3
Queensland	2·1	3·0
South Australia	2 3	2·8
Western Australia	3·0	3·3
Tasmania	3 8	3 7
Commonwealth	2·9	3·1
New Zealand	6·0	5·9
Australasia	3 6	3 7

Only three of the colonies are in a position to export potatoes in any quantity—Tasmania, Victoria, and New Zealand. The surplus in Victoria, though at one time considerable, has now very much decreased. The following were the imports or exports of potatoes by each colony in 1899 :—

State.	Net Imports.	Net Exports.
	tons.	tons.
New South Wales	58,384	
Victoria		10,962
Queensland	15,054	
South Australia	2,665	
Western Australia	8,886	
Tasmania		45,828
Commonwealth	28,399	
New Zealand		25,393
Australasia	3,006	

In New Zealand, for all the years except the last, the areas shown ly include the extent of sown grasses cut for hay. In 1899 this area s 68,234 acres. It is not possible to quote for the earlier years the s under wheat, oats, &c., cut for this purpose. Similarly, the pro- tion shown below for those years only includes the quantity of grass :—

State.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1899
	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.
w South Wales. . ..	57,363	77,460	198,532	209,417	546,850
toria	92,497	144,637	238,793	505,246	596,193
eensland	459	6,278	19,640	58,842	103,409
th Australia .	78,886	98,266	240,827	193,317	229,800
stern Australia .	6,609	14,288	24,445	28,534	70,078
mania	59,851	30,891	44,957	66,996	51,123
Commonwealth	295,665	371,820	767,194	1,062,352	1,597,453
w Zealand	36,666	35,674	89,081	67,361	450,800
Australasia .. .	332,331	407,494	856,275	1,129,713	2,048,253

The average yield of hay per acre will be found in the next table, periods covered being the year 1899 and the ten years which closed 1899. The production of hay in New Zealand is not known curately, but has been estimated at 1·9 tons per acre :—

State	Average yield per acre.	
	1899.	1890–99.
	tons.	tons.
New South Wales . . .	1·0	1·0
Victoria	1·3	1·2
Queensland	1·8	1·9
South Australia	0·7	0·7
Western Australia	0·9	0·9
Tasmania	1·2	1·3
Commonwealth	1·1	1·1
New Zealand	1·9	1·9
Australasia	1·2	1·2

The greater portion of the hay is produced from wheat, although New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and New Zealand there large areas under oaten and lucerne hay, which are in great dem and readily sell at remunerative prices; in fact, so profitable is return from oaten hay, that in New South Wales and Queensland cultivation of oats for threshing is practically neglected for the sake hay. For the most part, hay is grown in each province in quanti sufficient for its own requirements, New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia ordinarily being the only colonies which import any extent.

The net import or export of hay and chaff by each colony during year 1899 was as follows:—

State.	Net Imports.	Net Exports.
	tons.	tons.
New South Wales	131,609	
Victoria		105,177
Queensland	12,317	
South Australia		10,631
Western Australia	871	
Tasmania		11,206
Commonwealth	17,783	
New Zealand		571
Australasia	17,212	

The value of the return from hay in 1899-1900 was only second that from wheat, the value in each colony and the return per acre be found below:—

State	Total Value of Hay Crop.	Average Value per Acre
	£	£ s. d.
New South Wales	1,757,400	3 3 5
Victoria	1,959,000	4 7 0
Queensland	326,500	5 10 10
South Australia	551,500	1 15 5
Western Australia	210,200	2 13 4
Tasmania	148,400	3 9 10
Commonwealth	4,953,000	3 6 3
New Zealand	1,057,000	4 6 11
Australasia	6,010,000	3 9 1

Green Forage and Sown Grasses.

cultivation of maize, sorghum, barley, oats, and other cereals for pose of green food, and the laying-down of lands under lucerne ass, engage attention in the districts where dairy-farming is on. The agricultural returns of some of the colonies do not f a distribution being made between these forms of cultivation 1887. The following table shows the area under such green 1887, 1891, and 1899, and it will be seen that there have been evelopments in most of the colonies, especially in New South

eturn from the cultivation of green forage in all the colonies the season 1899-1900 is estimated at £518,000, or nearly £3 an

State	Green Food.			Sown Grasses.		
	1887.	1891.	1899.	1887.	1891.	1899.
	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.
th Wales..	20,403	32,138	75,518	192,678	333,238	378,852
	6,036	9,202	18,574	154,612	174,982	154,232
nd .	9,582	10,727	35,514	13,619	20,921	19,228
stralia ..	10,079	6,416	12,460	23,217	17,519	21 593
Australia		238	1,000	.	.	2,390
.	1,246	1,101	3,091	184,653	208,596	290,618
n-wealth	47,346	59,822	146,157	568,779	755,256	867,113
land ..	98,029	118,484	26,645	5,869,247	7,357,229	10,853,302
ralasia ..	145,375	178,306	172,802	6,438,026	8,112,485	11,720,415

ently there has been a decrease since 1891 in the acreage een food in New Zealand, but it is believed that the greater of the area shown in the two earlier years was really sown for In Victoria, Queensland, Tasmania, and New Zealand various sown grasses are cut for seed, chiefly rye grass and cocksfoot, quantity of grass seed produced in 1899 being 13,391 tons, at £435,000. The production in Victoria was 250 tons; in and, 3 tons; in Tasmania, 240 tons; and in New Zealand, tons. The acreage on which this grass seed was produced is in the total given above for sown grasses, and amounted to es in Victoria, 24 acres in Queensland, 1,841 acres in Tasmania, 61 acres in New Zealand.

following tables show the progress made in wine-growing during last thirty-nine years :—

State.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1899.
	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.
South Wales	85,328	413,321	513,688	913,107	739,668
oria	47,568	713,589	539,191	1,554,130	933,282
nsland	. . . .	. .	72,121	168,526	131,045	
h Australia . . .	312,021	852,315	313,060	861,835	954,367
ern Australia ...	. .	.....	99,600	106,664	100,000
Australia . .	444,917	1,979,225	1,537,660	3,604,262	2,858,362

he production of table-grapes during the same period is shown w :

State.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1899.
	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.
South Wales... ...	224	508	1,103	3,694	3,652
oria	849	1,545	740	2,791	4,502
nsland	. .	. . . .	255	1,169	500
h Australia . .	1,161	1,692	1,408	4,590	5,402
ern Australia .	. ..	..	.. .		400
Australia... ..	2,234	3,745	3,596	12,244	14,540

ong other produce of the vineyards may be mentioned 9,624 ns of brandy in New South Wales, and 615 gallons in Queensland ; Victoria and South Australia produced respectively 21,162 cwt. 5,145 cwt. of raisins and currants.

is impossible to tabulate the average wine-yield of all the colonies, many instances the acreage under cultivation for wine-making pur- cannot be separated from young unproductive vineyards or areas ated for table varieties of the grape only. Making due allowance last fact, it would appear that the average production for the season 1900), which was a very unfavourable one, was about 160 gallons ew South Wales, 120 gallons in Queensland, 72 gallons in Western alia, and 58 gallons in Victoria. Taking an average year, the ction for Australia may be set down at 190 gallons.

mpared with the wine production of other countries, that of alia is certainly trifling, but a growing local demand, and the opening

up of a market in England, where Australian wines have ob
some appreciation, make the prospects of the industry suffi
promising to encourage a hope that the coming years will w
important developments. In 1898, the latest year for which inf
tion is available, the world's production was estimated at 2,716,00
gallons, to which Australia only contributed 4,000,000 gallons;
in 1899 the production of Australia decreased to under 3,00
gallons.

The following table illustrates the progress made in the exp
Australian wine to countries outside of Australasia since 1881. It
be noticed that in 1899, the trade with foreign countries had gro
fifteen times the value in 1881, while the number of gallons exp
had also increased very largely. The 1899 figures are, exclusi
Queensland, 74 gallons, valued at £35; and Western Australia
gallons, valued at £254.

State.	1881		1891		1899.	
	Quantity	Value.	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Va
	gallons.	£	gallons.	£	gallons.	
New South Wales .	13,271	3,520	12,368	2,904	8,297	
Victoria . .	5,588	2,341	142,294	26,152	316,967	3
South Australia	1,751	580	227,681	39,054	417,218	5
Australia ...	20,610	6,441	382,343	68,110	742,482	9

Including the intercolonial as well as the foreign trade, the e
of each colony during the same years are shown below. The
for 1899 are exclusive of Queensland, 88 gallons, valued at
Western Australia, 715 gallons, valued at £254; and Tasman
gallons, valued at £27.

State.	1881		1891		1899	
	Quantity	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity	Va
	gallons.	£	gallons.	£	gallons.	
New South Wales.	22,377	7,233	54,143	11,644	32,749	
Victoria	12,544	5,388	160,982	32,516	327,832	4
South Australia	54,001	12,637	285,107	58,282	496,510	7
Australia	88,922	25,258	500,232	102,442	857,091	1

The total value of the grape crop and the average return per acre in Australian colonies, for the year 1899, will be found below :—

State.	Total value of crop	Average value per acre	
		Of Total Area under Vines.	Of Productive Vines.
	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
New South Wales ..	108,500	13 2 2	15 1 8
Victoria	452,300	16 8 4	18 0 0
Queensland	26,200	13 1 7	15 0 0
South Australia	292,900	15 1 4	17 5 0
Western Australia	48,800	15 0 0	. . .
New Zealand	6,300	15 0 0	. .....
Australasia ...	935,000	15 9 0	17 4 9

The Government of Victoria has attempted to help the wine industry of that colony by establishing wineries. Under safeguarding regulations it undertook to advance up to £3,000 to each company on its formation, and up to the present £8,600 have been advanced to companies at Rutherglen, Stawell, Mooroopna, and Yarrawonga.

Sugar-cane.

The growth of the cane and the manufacture of sugar are important industries in Queensland and New South Wales: but whilst the climate of the former colony renders the employment of white labour in the field almost impossible, the plantations of the latter are worked, as a rule, without the assistance of coloured labour. The Queensland planters usually combine the functions of cane-growers and sugar-manufacturers, but in New South Wales, where the numerous holdings are, as a rule, small in area, the cane is purchased from the planters, principally by the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, whose enormous crushing mills and refinery are fitted with machinery of the most modern character. The importation of coloured labour into Queensland has been renewed under stringent regulations for the protection of the Kanakas. The attempt made in 1891 by the planters to solve the difficult problem as to whether successful sugar growing is compatible with the employment of white labour, by the introduction of German farm labourers under contract to work in the sugar plantations for a number of years, was a failure. Japanese immigrants have also been introduced.

The area under cane for the years specified was as follows :—

State.	1861	1871	1881	1891	1897
	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.
New South Wales	22	4,394	12,167	22,262	22,547
Queensland	94	9,581	28,026	50,948	110,657
Total	116	13,975	40,193	73,210	133,174

The progress of the industry has been very rapid, especially in Queensland, the area of suitable land in that colony being very large. The area given above includes all the cane planted, whether cut during the year or not. The following table shows the acreage actually cut during the last five years :—

State.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.
	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.
New South Wales	14,398	18,194	12,936	14,578	9,435
Queensland	55,771	66,640	65,432	82,391	79,435
Total	70,169	84,834	78,368	96,969	88,870

The total production of cane in Queensland in 1899 was 1,176,46[illegible] tons, equal to 14·8 tons per acre, as compared with 170,509 tons, or 18·[illegible] tons per acre, in New South Wales. The yield of sugar per ton of cane varies, of course, with the density of the juice, but in an ordinary season it may be set down at about 9·5 per cent. in Queensland, and 9·8 per cent. in New South Wales.

The production of sugar from cane crushed during the last five years was as given below. The figures are compiled from the returns made by the mill-owners, and in the case of Queensland it is possible that they show something less than the actual production :—

State.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.
	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.
New South Wales	22,213	28,557	27,653	20,110	15,332
Queensland	86,255	100,774	97,916	163,734	123,289
Total	108,468	129,331	125,569	192,844	138,041

The following table shows the apparent consumption of sugar in each colony during 1899. Queensland was the only province which was able to meet its own requirements, and spare a quantity of sugar for export. The net export from that colony amounted to 109,313 tons, valued at £1,162,359, almost the whole of which was consigned to the other Australasian colonies.

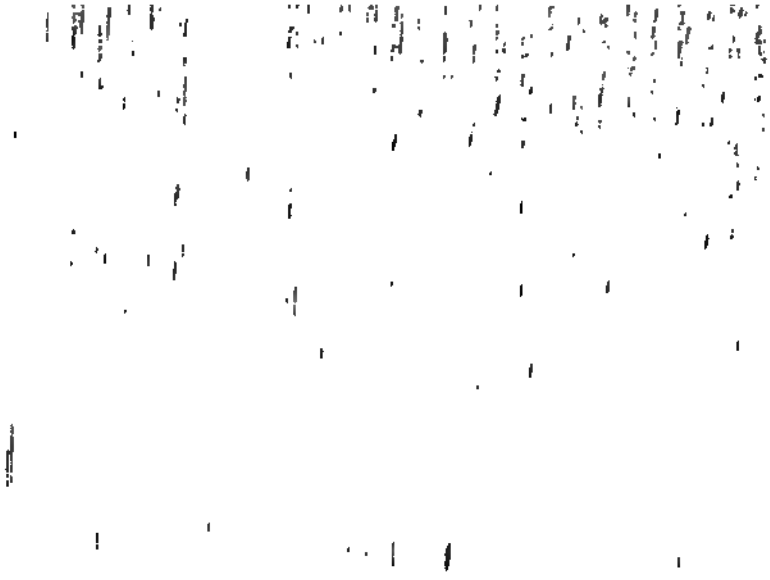
State.	Quantity Manufactured	Net Import.	Total Consumption of Sugar
	tons.	tons.	tons.
New South Wales	15,352	41,226	56,578
Victoria	348	45,926	46,274
Queensland	123,289	109,313*	13,976
South Australia		7,079	7,079
Western Australia		8,356	8,356
Tasmania		7,703	7,703
Commonwealth	138,989	977	139,966
New Zealand		30,344	30,344
Australasia	138,989	31,321	170,310

* Net Export.

The quantity shown above does not necessarily represent the total consumption of sugar during the year, because there may have been a surplus available from previous years, which would have the effect of lessening the import during 1899.

The country of origin of 141,930 tons of the sugar which was imported into Australasia during 1899 can be ascertained, and was as shown below. The balance consisted partly of small quantities imported from other countries, but mostly of re-exports, the original port of shipment of which could not be traced from one colony to another. The quantity shown as imported from Europe was probably beet sugar:—

Country of Origin.	Quantity Imported.
	tons.
Queensland	102,413
Mauritius	6,607
Fiji	25,468
Java	4,615
Hongkong	2,158
Europe	669
Total	141,930



ivately grown have been declared by the Agricultural Chemist to ntain 22½ per cent. of sugar.

Such high yields as these have forced the conclusion that these lonies are fitted by nature to become the home of the sugar-beet. ndeed, in New South Wales, analyses made by the Chemist to the olonial Sugar Refining Company of roots grown in the New England strict, where experiments were conducted, disclosed yields ranging om 15·66 to 24·75 per cent. of sugar. There is little fear, therefore, at with proper care and attention, the cultivation of the beet will ot produce good results; also, unlike the sugar-cane, the beet is a ue agricultural product, and not only does not exclude other crops om the land but on the contrary invites them, and, as general xperience has proved, leads to their greater production by vastly creasing the fertility of the soil. The one thing necessary to ensure ccess is the establishment of large mills for the production of beet gar, according to the most modern principles. To attempt to start the dustry on a small scale is to invite failure, for the cost of production ould be too high. The Victorian Minister of Agriculture, in a report n the prospects of establishing the beet-sugar industry, issued at the end f 1894, made this clear, and estimated that with a factory that could rn out 300 tons per day the financial results would be satisfactory, while ith one of greater capacity the cost would be correspondingly reduced. he question is not only one of importance to Victoria, which now nports all its sugar, and imports it largely from countries outside ustralasia, but to the other colonies as well. At the present time, hen the growing of sugar-cane in New South Wales and Queensland an important industry, the production is by no means equal to the ants of the people of Australasia, and there is therefore sufficient scope r the immediate cultivation of the beet-root for the extraction of gar. In addition to this, the pulp of beet-root is a very valuable fodder r cattle, so that its cultivation might be pursued in conjunction with ry-farming.

On 6th March, 1896, the Victorian Parliament passed an Act powering the Government to assist in the establishment of the gar beet industry by granting loans to duly registered public com anies which might be formed for the purpose of erecting mills and uipping them with the necessary machinery and plant for the extrac- n of sugar from the roots. The company applying for aid must tisfy the Treasurer of the colony of certain conditions, and if he were tisfied that these conditions were likely to be fulfilled, and that the mpany had a paid up capital of not less than £20,000, he was thorised to advance to the company a sum not exceeding twice the ount raised by its shareholders.

As a result of these concessions a company was formed in Victoria. his company erected a factory at Maffra, at a total cost of £17,200. nd the first campaign ended in June, 1898. The cultivation was fur r persevered with until May, 1900, when the factory was closed down.

want of a foreign market, the area
declined from 1888 to 1892, after
ent until 1896, but since then has
ralasian tobacco-leaf has not yet been
l acceptance abroad, and until such is
expect the cultivation of the plant to
e soil and climate of Australia appear to
the plant, but sufficient care and skill have
preparation of the leaf. The quantity of
ed in 1888 was so greatly in excess of local
w prices only could be obtained, and a large
s left upon the growers' hands. The result
s abandoned the cultivation of tobacco, so that
rop during 1889 was only 3,239 acres in New
5 acres in Victoria, producing respectively 27,724
t of leaf—less than half the crop of the previous
he area showed a further decline in the case of New
Victoria. In the mother colony this decline continued
t in Victoria and Queensland the smallest area devoted
as during the season 1892. The year 1895 saw a great
e cultivation of tobacco in all three colonies, and in New
ies in 1896 there was again a large extension of the area
plant, although in Victoria and Queensland the advance made
was not maintained. Since that year the area under cultivation
e production have both steadily declined in each colony until, in
the total production was only 14,557 cwt, the lowest since 1892.
the crop in Victoria was almost a complete failure

The average production per acre of tobacco in 1899, and during the
ears ended 1899, were as shown below. -

State.	Average Production per Acre.	
	1899.	1895-99.
	cwt	cwt
New South Wales	12·2	10·2
Victoria	8·8	5·9
Queensland	8·8	5·3
Australasia	10·1	8·4

Agricultural Department of Queensland is endeavouring to assist
acco-growers by the importation of American seed of first quality,
to the Queensland climate, and, following the example set by
a and New South Wales, the services of an American expert
een secured. New Zealand, also, has commenced the cultivation

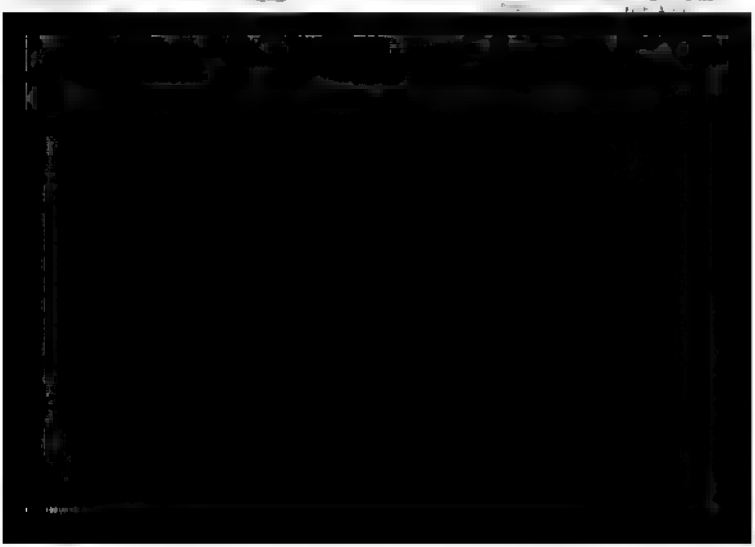
of tobacco, but so far it is only in the nature of an experiment; small area has been planted in the Northern Territory of Australia. In 1897 the Victorian Government decided to gr bounties of 3d. per lb. on all tobacco-leaf of approved quality gro the colony, and cured and shipped under the supervision of the to expert. The bounty is only payable to the actual grower of the lea 3 acres have been assigned as the maximum quantity for which pay will be made to any one grower or association.

The following table shows the imports of tobacco, cigars, and ciga for home consumption during 1899 :—

State.	Quantity. lb.
New South Wales	2,411,135
Victoria	2,277,422
[illegible]	887,552
[illegible]	678,738
[illegible]	755,299
[illegible]	360,945
[illegible]	7,371,091
[illegible]	1,731,551
[illegible]	9,102,642

The [illegible] the tobacco crop and the average gross re [illegible] during the year 1899, are g

[illegible]	Total Value of	Average Value



2·1 per cent., while in 1881 the proportion was 1·5 per cent. The area per 1,000 persons, in 1899, was 42·0 acres; in 1891, 36 acres; and in 1881, 29·4 acres. Grapes, oranges, apples, pears, and peaches are the principal fruits grown; but with an unlimited area suitable for fruit cultivation, and with climatic conditions so varied, ranging from comparative cold in New Zealand and on the high lands of New South Wales and Victoria to tropical heat in Queensland, a large variety of fruits could be cultivated. The industry, however, languishes partly on account of the lack of skill and care on the part of the grower, good fruits commanding high prices, while those placed within the reach of the multitude are generally of lower quality, and partly owing to the lack of means of rapid transit to market at reasonable rates. The inferior quality of much of the fruit produced was due to the ravages of fruit pests. The pests were almost wholly imported from Europe and America on fruit and cuttings, and as the orchards of Australia were threatened, and the fruit industry likely to be seriously interfered with, Acts have been passed in all the colonies prohibiting the importation of diseased fruit. The result of this legislation has been wholly beneficial, and if supplemented by legislation aimed at eradicating diseases existing in the orchards themselves, the future of the fruit industry would be assured. The area under orchards and gardens in 1881, 1891, and 1899 was as follows:—

State	1881		1891		1899	
	Acres.	Percentage to total area under Crops	Acres.	Percentage to total area under Crops	Acres.	Percentage to total area under Crops
New South Wales	24,565	4·3	40,116	4·7	53,997	2·2
Victoria	20,030	1·4	37,435	1·8	50,312	1·6
Queensland	3,262	2·8	9,778	4·0	12,881	3·1
South Australia	9,864	0·4	14,422	0·7	24,001	1·1
Western Australia	..	..	..	..	6,742	3·6
Tasmania	6,717	4·5	10,696	6·4	13,172	5·9
Commonwealth	65,038	1·5	112,427	2·1	161,105	1·9
New Zealand	16,360	1·5	29,235	2·0	27,354	1·6
Australasia	81,398	1·5	141,662	2·1	188,459	1·8

With the extension of artificial irrigation and the increased facilities of export afforded by the adoption of cool chambers for the preservation of fruit during long voyages, the orchardists of Australasia are now enabled to compete with foreign States in the fruit supply for the British market, which averages about £8,000,000 in value annually.

[illegible] Tasmanian fruit trade with England has passed the experim[illegible] [illegible], and every season large steamers visit Hobart to receive tr[illegible] [illegible] market.

The following table shows the import and export trade of each [illegible] in green fruit and pulp for 1899, from which it will be seen [illegible] Tasmania is, as yet, the only colony whose export largely exce[illegible] [illegible], although in both Queensland and South Australia the ex[illegible] of domestic produce are now well above the imports:—

State.	Imports.	Exports of Domestic Produce.
	£	£
New South Wales	243,758	97,406
Victoria	78,[illegible]31	43,[illegible]
Queensland	86,621	93,2[illegible]
South Australia	24,041	32,856
Western Australia	16,721	124
Tasmania ..	19,143	190,956
Commonwealth	469,215	458,[illegible]
New Zealand	99,683	1,[illegible]
Australasia . ..	568,898	459,[illegible]

The total value of the produce of gardens and orchards and [illegible] average return per acre in 1899 were as given below:—

State.	Total Value of Crop.	Average Value per acre.		
	£	£	s.	d.
New South Wales	434,[illegible]00	8	0	9
[illegible]	[illegible]	10	7	6
[illegible]	[illegible]	14	10	2
[illegible]	[illegible]	18	10	5
[illegible]	[illegible]	6	9	0
[illegible]	[illegible]	11	11	2
[illegible]	[illegible]	11	1	5
[illegible]	[illegible]	8	15	11
[illegible]	[illegible]	10	11	10

[illegible] value for purpos[illegible] [illegible] of the [illegible] gardens, which tend[illegible] [illegible] general average of a col[illegible]

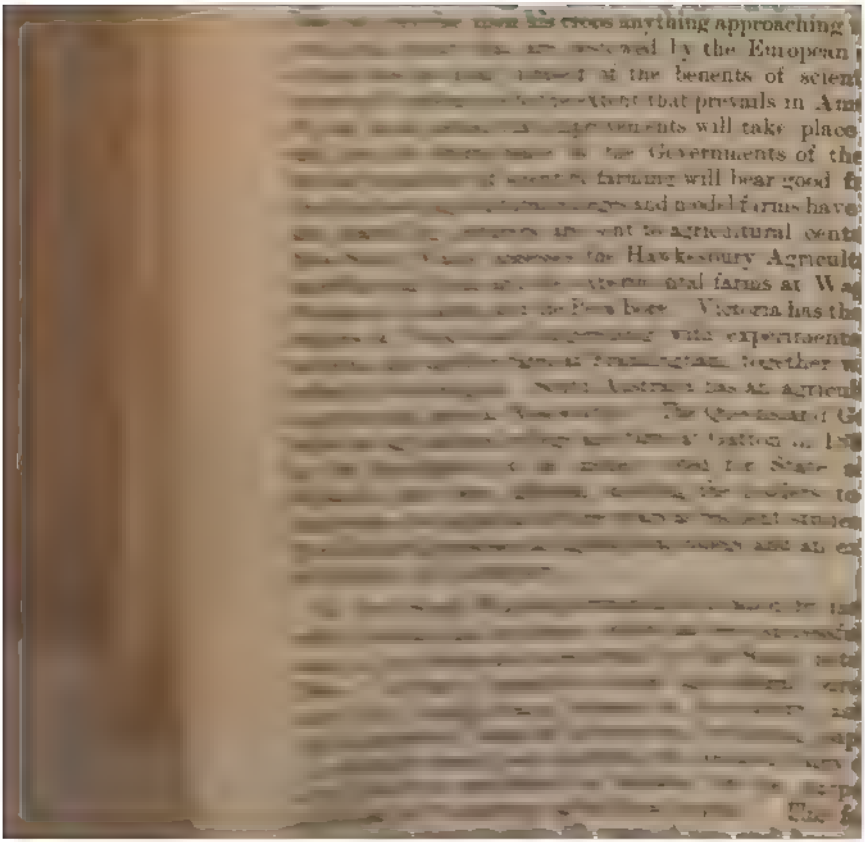
In New South Wales the smallness of the average is explained by the fact that in a great number of instances, owing to a lack of facilities for disposing of the fruit crops, the produce of the orchards did not reach the markets, and in some cases was not even gathered. In Tasmania stone fruits are principally grown, and the gross returns from these are now smaller than the returns obtained from the cultivation of sub-tropical fruits such as the orange and citron, which tend to increase the average returns in the continental and northern provinces. In South Australia the large area cultivated as market gardens, which return a greater value per acre than orchards, accounts for the high value of production shown.

Minor Crops.

Besides the crops already specifically noticed, there are small areas on which are grown a variety of products, chiefly rye, bere, onions, beans, peas, turnips, rape, mangold wurzel, and hops, but they are not sufficiently important to warrant special mention, except turnips and rape in New Zealand, where no less an area than 551,250 acres was planted with these crops. The area under minor crops in each province in 1899 was as follows:—

State.	Acres.
New South Wales	13,954
Victoria	22,936
Queensland	18,013
South Australia	5,362
Western Australia	1,212
Tasmania	20,402
Commonwealth	81,879
New Zealand	570,295
Australasia	652,174

In 1899 there were 495 acres under coffee in Queensland, which produced on an average 212 lb. per acre. There were also 151 acres under arrowroot, with an average production of 10·9 tons per acre. Small quantities of cotton, also, are grown in Queensland; and it has been found that heavy crops of cotton can be raised at the Pera Artesian settlement in New South Wales. In 1897 the South Australian Government granted a lease of Bathurst Island, comprising an area of [illegible] acres, to a syndicate, which proposes to plant india-rubber trees on a large scale.



State Advances to Farmers.

The oldest system by which advances of money are made to farmers is probably that which was established, as early as 1770, by the German Landschaften Banken, and the principle, assuming different forms according to the circumstances of the countries into which it was introduced, was gradually extended to the other great countries of Europe, with the exception of the United Kingdom, where an unwieldy system of land transfer, and the growing accumulation of large estates, form obstacles in the way of its successful application. Since 1841, mainly through the efforts of Raiffeisen, the German Land Credit Banks have taken the form of purely co-operative institutions, and in this respect they have been followed by Sweden, the Baltic provinces of Russia, and Finland, as well as, to some extent, by Austria-Hungary; but in most of the European countries the institutions may be classed as partly State and partly co-operative. In France alone is the system exclusively administered by the State, and it is the French *Credit Foncier* which has been adopted in Australasia wherever the idea of rendering financial aid to agriculturists has been carried into effect, namely, in the colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, and New Zealand, while in Queensland and Tasmania the system has been under consideration.

It was not till very recently that New South Wales adopted the system of advances to settlers. Act No. 1, of 1899, was passed to assist settlers who were in necessitous circumstances, or who were financially embarrassed owing to the droughts. Under this Act a Board was appointed to consider applications for relief, and determine whether such relief should be granted. No advance to any settler is to exceed £200, which is to be repaid in ten years at 4 per cent. per annum. Up to 3rd October, 1900, 4,393 applications had been received for advances, the amount applied for being £377,000. Of these applications, 1,251 have been dealt with by the Board, and 1,564 have been refused. The number of applications approved is 2,687, representing advances to the amount of £193,037. Repayments of principal amount to £9,773, in addition to which £2,948 has been received in interest. The Government has in contemplation the introduction of a scheme somewhat on the lines followed in Victoria, in which the system will be carried on in connection with the Savings Bank.

In Victoria, a section of the Savings Banks Act of 1890 empowered the Commissioners to entertain applications for loans, and to lend sums of money on security by way of mortgage of any lands and hereditaments held in fee-simple free of all prior charges, quit rents excepted, at such rate of interest as might, from time to time, be fixed by them. The conditions were not very liberal, but they endured for a number of years. Five per cent. was the rate of interest charged, and 2 per cent.

was payable annually in redemption of the principal. Opportunity was taken in the Act for the amalgamation of the Savings Banks, assented to on the 24th December, 1896, to definitely grant advances to farmers under the land credit system. Under the new Act the Commissioners of Savings Banks are empowered to assist farmers, graziers, market gardeners, or persons employed in agricultural, horticultural, viticultural, or pastoral pursuits, by making advances either by instalments or otherwise, upon the security of any agricultural, horticultural, viticultural, or pastoral land held by them, either in fee simple, or under a lease from the Crown in which the rent reserved is taken in part payment of the purchase money of the land demised by such lease. The Commissioners have the option of making such advances either in cash or in mortgage bonds; and it is provided that all advances, together with interest at the rate of 4½ per cent. per annum, are to be repaid in sixty three half yearly instalments, or such smaller number as may be agreed upon by the Commissioners and the borrower. From the commencement of the Act to the 30th June, 1899, the Commissioners approved 2,035 applications for loans, aggregating a sum of £914,265. The actual advances made during the financial year 1898–99 amounted to £262,290, of which £231,663 was advanced to pay liabilities, £12,806 to pay Crown rents, and £17,821 to improve resources of land, and to carry on. To enable them to make the necessary advances the Commissioners had sold Treasury bonds to the nominal value of £768,550.

The South Australian Parliament, on the 20th December of that year, passed the State Advance Act of 1895, providing for the establishment of a State Bank for the purpose of making advances to farmers and producers, to local authorities, and in aid of industries, on proper security, consisting either of lands held in fee simple or under Crown lease: the funds for this purpose to be raised by the issue of mortgage bonds guaranteed by the State. The rate of interest was to be a matter of arrangement between the bank and the borrower, the maximum being 5 per cent. per annum. To the 31st March, 1900, the South Australian State Bank, thus established, had advanced £529,881, and received repayments to the amount of £75,329. On that date there were arrears of interest to the amount of £245 outstanding, and £5,608 interest had accrued and become due on the 1st April. In order to enable these advances to be made, mortgage bonds had been sold to the amount of £531,200, of which £77,000 had been repurchased leaving the amount current at £454,200. The advances made during the financial year 1899–1900 amounted to £65,729.

In Western Australia the Agricultural Bank Act of 1894 authorised the establishment of a bank for the purpose of assisting persons in the occupation, cultivation, and improvement of agricultural lands. Under the provisions of the Act the manager of the bank is empowered to make advances to farmers and other cultivators of the soil on the security of their holdings in fee simple, or under special occupation

lease, or under conditional purchase from the Crown, or under the Homestead Farms Act of 1893. The advances are granted either for the purpose of making improvements on unimproved holdings, or of making additional improvements on holdings already improved, and, under the original Act, could not exceed in amount one-half of the fair estimated value of the improvements proposed to be made. The maximum rate of interest chargeable was fixed at 6 per cent per annum payable half yearly, and it was provided that the largest sum to be advanced to any one person shall be £400. Repayment is made in half yearly instalments of one fiftieth of the principal sum, to commence on the 1st January or the 1st July next following the expiration of five years from the date of the advance, until the whole amount is repaid with interest. Arrangements can, however, be made for the repayment of advances at shorter intervals, and in larger instalments. For the purposes of the Act, improvements were defined as clearing, cultivating, and ringbarking; but by an Amending Act passed in 1895 the term was extended so as to include fencing, drainage works, wells of fresh water, reservoirs, buildings, or any other works enhancing the value of the holding. The same Act raised the largest sum which can be advanced to £800, reduced the maximum rate of interest to 5 per cent, made provision for the acceptance of pastoral leases as security, and allowed advances to be made up to three-fourths of the estimated value of the proposed improvements. The capital granted to the Agricultural Bank is £100,000; and to the 30th June, 1900, loans to the amount of £130,395 from 1,039 applicants had been approved. During the financial year 1899-1900, advances to the amount of £12,580 were approved.

In New Zealand the Government Advances to Settlers Act of 1894 provided for the establishment of an Advances to Settlers Office, empowered to lend money on first mortgages of land occupied for farming, dairying, or market gardening purposes, urban and suburban lands used for residential or manufacturing purposes being expressly excluded from the scope of the Act. At that time one class of loans only was contemplated, viz., loans on mortgage security, which were repayable by seventy-three half-yearly instalments, subject, however, to redemption at any time; but by an Amending Act passed in 1896 authority was given for the granting of fixed loans for any term not exceeding ten years. These loans can only be granted on freehold lands, and are repayable without sinking fund at the end of the period for which they are made. The amount advanced on fixed loan is not to exceed one-half the estimated value of the security, while under the instalment system the Board of Control has power to grant loans up to 60 per cent. of the realisable value of freehold securities, and up to 50 per cent. of the lessee's interest in leasehold securities. In both cases interest is fixed at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, and the amount advanced must be less than £25 nor more than £3,000—the maximum under the 1894 Act having been £2,500. Instalment loans are repayable in 36½

[illegible] payments, at the rate of 5 per cent. for intere[illegible] [illegible] of the principal sum. The first meet[illegible] [illegible] for the purpose of considering applications for [illegible] February, 1895; and up to 31st March, 190[illegible] [illegible] advances, amounting to £2,633,440 [illegible] for in the 8,452 applications granted in full [illegible] 1,084 applicants declined the partial [illegible] amounting to £454,000, so that the net ad[illegible] [illegible] March, 1900, numbered 7,148, and amoun[illegible] [illegible] for the advances authorised was val[illegible] [illegible] of applications received up to 31st [illegible] [illegible] the amount applied for, £3,711,033.

Artesian Wells.

[illegible] water for stock in the dry portions [illegible] continent induced the Governments [illegible] funds to the purpose of sinking for [illegible] such supplies as might be obtained fro[illegible] [illegible] geologists stated to exist in the [illegible] which extend under an immense [illegible] Australia, from the western districts of [illegible] limit into Western Australia.

[illegible] the question of the existence of underg[illegible] [illegible] of earnest discussion, but doubts [illegible] discovery on the Kallara Run, at a dep[illegible] [illegible] supply of water, which, when tapped, [illegible] surface. The Government then undertook the wo[illegible] [illegible] and since the year 1884 the sinking of art[illegible] [illegible] in a scientific and systematic manner, under [illegible] officers. Private enterprise, which [illegible] followed up its first successes.

[illegible] Government of New South Wales had under[illegible] [illegible] eight wells; of these, eighty-two have been [illegible] progress. Of the completed wells, fifty-six [illegible] sub-artesian, yielding pumping supplies, one [illegible] and seven have been failures; these [illegible] feet of boring, while with the uncompleted wells [illegible] has been 151,249 feet. From the completed [illegible] gallons of water flow every day to the surface. [illegible] completed is that at the Dolgelly, on the road from [illegible] where boring has been carried to a depth of 4,086 [illegible] a supply of approximately 745,200 gallons per [illegible] flow obtained in the colony is from the Kenmare Bor[illegible] [illegible] Bourke to Hungerford; the depth of this well is [illegible] and the estimated flow about 2,050,000 gallons per diem. An [illegible] important bore is that at Pera, 8 miles from Bourke, on the Wana[illegible]

road, where at a depth of 1,154 feet a flow of 300,000 gallons per diem is obtained. At this bore the most extensive system of irrigation by artesian water as yet undertaken in the colony is being carried out. An area of 7 acres has been set apart for experimental cultivation by the Government, and certain fruits and other products indigenous to the temperate and torrid zones are being grown with success. Equally good results have been obtained at Native Dog, Barringun, Enngonia, and Bedalie bores, on the road from Bourke to Barringun. Lucerne, maize, wheat, sorghum, millet, planter's friend, sugar-cane, date palms, pineapples, bananas, and many other fruits and vegetables of tropical and sub-tropical character have been found to thrive there exceedingly well.

On the road from Wanaaring to Milparinka, once a waterless track, successful boring operations have been carried on. Seven bores have been completed. Four of these give a pumping supply, and two are flowing, yielding an aggregate supply of 2,300,000 gallons daily, and the other is choked and has ceased flowing. Boring operations have been extended farther to the north-west, and two bores have been sunk at Padrumata and Ocarnoo on the Wilcannia to Wanaaring road. These two bores are sub-artesian, and yield pumping supplies at depths of 780 and 1,359 feet respectively. Another bore is in progress at Warri Warri. A remarkable flow has also been obtained at the Moree bore, amounting to 1,108,000 gallons daily. This bore has been carried to a depth of 2,792 feet, through formations of the same age as the Ipswich coal measures (*Trias-Jura*), thus demonstrating the fact that water can be obtained in other than the lower cretaceous formation.

Much has been done in the way of artesian boring by private enterprise. As far as can be ascertained, 128 private bores have been undertaken in New South Wales, of which 16 were failures, 2 were abandoned, and one is in progress. Amongst the most important are two wells on Lessington Hosting, one with a flow of 4,000,000 gallons and the other with 3,000,000 gallons per day; one at Cuttabulla (Lala Springs), with a daily flow of 4,000,000 gallons; one at Toulby with 3,000,000 gallons per day, and one at Goondaolme with 3,000,000 gallons per day. From the private wells approximately 45,000,000 gallons are discharged daily.

A better idea of the value of artesian wells to the community will be obtained when it is known that the aggregate daily flow of underground water in New South Wales is now approximately 78,000,000 gallons, and that, in addition, large supplies can be pumped from sub-artesian wells. The average depth of the eight two wells completed by the Government is 1,548 feet 4 inches, with a range from 120 to 4,086 feet, while the temperature of the water varies from 80 to 139 degrees Fahrenheit. The total cost of the wells (including actual boring, casing, carriage, and incidental expenses) was £243,938 4s. 7d., or an average of £2,973 12s. 9d. per bore, or £1 16s. 1d. per foot.

The latest information available regarding the artesian water supply of Queensland extends only to 30th June, 1898, when the Hydraulic Engineer reports that 41 bores had been completed by the Water Supply

[illegible] of which 16 were successful, one gave a pumping sup[illegible] [illegible] or their progress was uncertain. In addi[illegible] [illegible] the Railway Department of which 2 [illegible] [illegible] Local Government authorities of which 5 [illegible] [illegible] 582 had also been un[illegible] [illegible] were attended with success, and 157 [illegible] [illegible] progress was [illegible] The total daily flow of [illegible] and the total contin[illegible] [illegible] at 213,953,000 gal[illegible] [illegible] 24,950,000 gallon[illegible] [illegible] from [illegible] The deepest Government bore [illegible] [illegible] supply nam[illegible] [illegible] Charleville bore [illegible] [illegible] in the Colony, is [illegible] 1,860 feet. The lar[illegible] [illegible] Westman and Kenna [illegible] [illegible] yields 3,[illegible] gall[illegible] [illegible] The Goora and Horton [illegible] [illegible] also yield 4,[illegible] gall[illegible] [illegible] 30th June, 18[illegible] was 717,[illegible] [illegible] 1,177 feet nearly. At [illegible] [illegible] water of so low a temperature [illegible] [illegible] while at Dagworth, the water [illegible] [illegible] Large areas are served by the [illegible] [illegible] the total at the middle of 1[illegible] [illegible] being 5,229 acres, of which 4,[illegible] [illegible] addition several stations, which [illegible] [illegible] water for purposes of irrigation.

[illegible] the latest date for which any information [illegible] [illegible] Department of South Australia [illegible] [illegible] at which, however, only thirty three w[illegible] [illegible] over widely distant parts of the territo[illegible] [illegible] at Nullarbor Plains, on the boundary [illegible] [illegible] at Oodnadatta, the present terminus of [illegible] [illegible] system, and at Tintinara in the south-east [illegible] [illegible] The bore at Tintinara has proved that [illegible] [illegible] water-bearing. For purposes of water conser[illegible] [illegible] be divided into four large areas, namely the W[illegible] [illegible] 12 bores were attempted and 3 were successf[illegible] [illegible] North-west division, where 13 out of 32 bores w[illegible] [illegible] Central division, where 15 out of 39 bores were a succe[illegible] [illegible] South-east division, where 2 out of 4 bores were success[illegible] [illegible] the west coast, Robert's Well No. 1, on Nullarb[illegible] [illegible] a depth of 777 feet, and gives a daily supply of 68,0[illegible] [illegible] total supply from the three flowing wells being 133,0[illegible] [illegible] Much greater depths have been reached in the far north [illegible] [illegible] being the deepest in the colony, viz., 3,000 f[illegible]

...well gives a daily supply of 800,000 gallons. A well at Strangways, ... another at Coward, give daily supplies of 1,200,000 gallons each ... maximum obtained in South Australia. The flowing bores in this ... gave a daily yield of 3,928,200 gallons. The wells in the central ... are much less important, the largest supply, viz., 108,000 gallons ..., being obtained from one in the vicinity of Gawler. The deepest ... in this division is situated at Perevton, and reaches 930 feet. The ... daily supply in the central area amounts to 354,400 gallons. ... two successful wells in the south-east have a daily outflow of 34,000 ... The total daily supply for the whole colony reaches, therefore, ...,000 gallons. According to a report by the engineer-in-chief, it ... appear that the South Australian Government had expended ... on machinery and £148,689 in boring operations, or a total of ..., at the end of the year 1897.

The Government of Western Australia, following the example set by ... of the eastern colonies, has sunk a number of wells in the direction ... the Coolgardie gold-field, and of the South Australian border, and ... let contracts for others. So far as official data show, there were at ... end of 1899 sixteen artesian wells in the colony, reaching an aggre... depth of 14,165 feet, and yielding a total flow of 4,806,500 gallons ... hour. In addition to these, there are three sub-artesian wells of an ...regate depth of 2,511 feet, from which 531,700 gallons of water can ..., obtained daily. The deepest bore, 1860 feet, is at South Perth. The ...cipal bore at Guildford has the largest yield, viz., 1,120,000 gallons ... day.

In the province of Victoria the Government has since the year 1886 ... several experimental borings, but so far the results have not ... encouraging. Artesian water was, however, struck at Sale, in ...pland, as early as the year 1880, but the bore is not now used.

It is unfortunate that later information than that quoted in regard to ... of the colonies, notably Queensland and South Australia, cannot ... on; but there seems to be a singular apathy on the part of the ...rnments concerned in all the colonies in publishing reports on this ... important service. The statistics are presented for the two above-... colonies for the dates referred to, as it is probable that no great ... of work has been carried out during the last year or two in the ... of boring for artesian water.

MINERAL RESOURCES.

A [illegible] of economic value are found [illegible] common to several colonies. [illegible] of mineral deposits, a classif[illegible] [illegible] metals, carbon minerals [illegible] [illegible] gem stones.

GOLD.

[illegible] metals, is found throughout [illegible] of the colonies is largely [illegible] [illegible] of other industries [illegible] [illegible] sequence to the acquisition [illegible] Australia was still young when many [illegible] of the precious metal, but it was [illegible] that the Government was officially [illegible] recurser of a prosperity [illegible] [illegible] date mentioned Mr. [illegible] [illegible] on the Fish River, about [illegible] [illegible] gold. Mention is made [illegible] [illegible] of several other finds [illegible] [illegible] W. B. Clarke to demonstrate [illegible] payable quantities [illegible] [illegible] opinion strongly supported [illegible] [illegible] and substantiated by [illegible] [illegible] The gold fields of Lewis Ponds [illegible] [illegible] up when, on the day [illegible] [illegible] from the mother colony [illegible] [illegible] discovered gold in Victoria [illegible] [illegible] and the gold fever [illegible] [illegible] year 1852) saw gold found [illegible] [illegible] rush to Canoona, in what [illegible] [illegible] and gold was discovered in [illegible] [illegible] was not until 1861 that a large [illegible] rapidly obtaining wealth, attracted [illegible] [illegible] The last of the seven colonies in which [illegible] [illegible] metal were found was Western [illegible] [illegible] great rush set in but a few years [illegible] [illegible] payable quantities in 1882.

From the date of its first discovery, gold to the value of nearly 429 million pounds sterling, has been obtained in Australasia. Victoria, which has in a period of forty-eight years contributed more than 254 millions to this total, has since the year 1897 given place to Western Australia as the largest annual producer of the precious metal, the yield of the latter colony in 1899 exceeding that of Victoria by more than two and three-quarter millions. Nevertheless, the output for the colony has shown a steady increase during recent years, the yield of [illegible] oz. in 1899 being the highest since the year 1882. Victorian gold is remarkably pure, and the quantities just quoted represent [illegible],235 oz. fine, so that on an average Victorian gold is worth £4 per oz. Several causes have contributed to this satisfactory development of gold-mining. Amongst these may be mentioned the great improvement in gold-saving appliances during recent years, and the application of a large amount of new capital to the working of new mines. The State, too, has done its share in helping the industry, and the Mines Development Act of 1896 authorised the expenditure of £[illegible],000 during the ensuing three years. Mining tracks have been cut through the mountainous districts on a much more extended scale than hitherto, with the object of opening up the areas which were [illegible] difficult of access; and in other directions efforts have been made to stimulate the industry. In 1899 the Sandhurst district, with [illegible] oz., supplied the largest portion of the gold yield of the colony, followed by the Ballarat district with 208,920 oz., and Beechworth with 104,278 oz. There were 30,114 men engaged in the search for gold in Victoria at the end of 1899. Of these, approximately, [illegible] were Chinese, but the miners of this race are steadily decreasing in number. The value of machinery on the gold-fields of Victoria may be set down at £1,914,270.

Queensland promised at one time to overtake Victoria in the value of its annual gold yield, but in 1899 its production amounted to £[illegible],119, as compared with £3,418,000 in the southern colony. Queensland, as a gold-producer, therefore, ranks third amongst the Australian colonies. The actual quantity of gold won was 946,894 oz., representing 667,792 oz. fine; the average value was, therefore, about [illegible] per oz. The yield for 1899 is the largest yet recorded. This result is due to the now universal application, wherever practicable, of the cyanide process to the treatment of the mill tailings, and the gold recovered in this manner last year constituted a little more than one-third of the total yield. The increase over the yield of 1898 is not so marked as is the case in some of the neighbouring provinces, but on all the larger fields much energy has been devoted to developing mines which will probably become productive during the current year. In some of the northern fields the enforced idleness of the mills, from want of water, prevented many thousands of tons of stone being treated, the contents of which would otherwise have been added to the year's output. To the production of the colony Charters Towers contributed

511,021 oz., valued at £1,357,517, the largest yield in the history of the field. Charters Towers is a field of deep sinking, and much interest has attended the progress of the shaft of the Day Dawn Consolidated Mine. In January, 1900, a gold-bearing reef was intersected at a depth of 1,815 feet.

The yield of the Mount Morgan gold field is almost entirely that of the celebrated Mount Morgan mine, which, in 1899, produced 172,389 oz. of gold, valued at £703,449, or about one-fourth of the total production of the colony. The average yield of all ore treated, 1·5 dwt., was slightly less than that of the preceding year, the decrease being attributed to the inclusion of large quantities of ore that had been left in the mine as too poor for profitable treatment before the introduction of the present system of reduction. Large additions have lately been made to the machinery, the total value now being £466,765. A dam capable of holding 225 million gallons, from which it is proposed to furnish the town supply, has also been constructed. No less than 2,000 men are employed in the mine and works. The number of men engaged in gold mining in Queensland at the end of 1899 was 9,798, of whom 710 were Chinese. As in Victoria, the number of Chinese finding employment on the gold-fields is decreasing. The estimated value of machinery on the Queensland gold fields during 1899 was £1,591,963.

In New South Wales the greatest annual production of gold occurred in 1852, soon after the first discovery of the precious metal, when it was valued at £2,660,946. The only other year which saw a production in excess of two millions sterling was 1862, the amount reaching £2,467,780. In 1874 the yield had fallen to 271,166 oz., valued at £1,041,614, and thenceforth the industry declined considerably in importance, reaching its lowest point in 1888, when only 87,541 oz., valued at £317,241, were produced. From that date a steady improvement took place, and in 1894 the Government took the step of furnishing large numbers of the unemployed with miners' rights and free railway passes, and sending them to the abandoned alluvial fields as fossickers. This action, with the increased attention paid to quartz mining, nearly doubled the production, the quantity obtained during the year being set down at 324,787 oz., valued at £1,150,717, while in 1895 the yield reached 360,165 oz., of a value of £1,315,929, the highest since 1873. In 1896, however, this yield was not maintained, the production amounting to 296,072 oz., valued at £1,073,360. Since 1896 there has been a decided improvement in the annual production. During 1897, 303,817 oz., valued at £1,128,164, were won, and in the following year the production reached 340,493 oz., of a value of £1,244,330. In 1899 the production was 496,196 oz., valued at £1,751,815, making a total yield to date of 12,862,922 oz., of a value of £47,546,013. The quantity and value of gold won in 1899 far exceeded the return of the previous year, and, with the exception of five years, was the highest total recorded. In the absence of any new finds of importance, the increase is doubtless due to the steady improvement

e methods of mining and in plant used for treating the ores, and to the inauguration of the gold-dredging system. This is quite w form of mining in New South Wales, and is receiving much ation. At the end of 1899 the machinery on the gold fields was ed at £861,828. The principal seats of alluvial mining in the colony the Bathurst and Mudgee districts, and the country watered by the us feeders of the Upper Lachlan, and also the Tumut and Adelong Braidwood districts, while the principal quartz veins are situated Adelong, Araluen, Bathurst, Hill End, Orange, Parkes, and long. The most important finds in recent years were the Mount dale gold-field, in the Cobar district, discovered in 1893, and the long field, situated in the Lachlan district. The first prospecting n on the latter was registered on the 26th December, 1893, and in early part of the following year there were over 10,000 persons on ground. The population now numbers about 4,200, of whom 1,600 miners. In 1899 the quantity of gold obtained from this district, h now holds the premier position among the gold fields of the y, was 44,675 oz., valued at £178,700.

ntil quite recently, Western Australia was considered to be desti- of mineral deposits of any value, but it is now known that a rich t mineral country extends from north to south. The first rtant discovery was made in 1882, when gold was found in the Ivanhoe district, but it was not until a few years later that this rich extensive area was developed. In 1887 gold was found at Yilgarn, t 200 miles east of Perth, the find possessing importance as precursor of the discovery of the immense tracts of gold bearing try, the knowledge of the existence of which has drawn population all parts of Australasia and brought the colony into the prominent ion which it occupies at the present time. General attention was attracted to these fields by further discoveries at Southern Cross, e east of Yilgarn; and the sensational finds at Coolgardie, which ed in 1892, resulted in a rush to Western Australia which was n scent of the experiences of the fifties in the older settled portions he continent. Thereafter, before the march of the prospector, the n gold bearing area was rapidly extended, and in 1894 the country divided into separate gold-fields, so extensive were the preparations the exploitation. At the present time, there are eighteen gold-fields the colony, the most important, from the point of production in being East Coolgardie, Coolgardie, and North Coolgardie, in the n district, and Murchison, in the central district. For the past years Western Australia has held the premier position among the Australasian colonies for its gold production, and the wonderful progress the industry in 1898 has not only been fully maintained during but in many respects has surpassed anticipations. Steady progress been exhibited on nearly all the gold fields, but it is the East die field which was mainly responsible for the increased produc during 1899, which was nearly 57 per cent. higher than in 1898.

North-east Coolgardie was the only gold-field which did not show an increase for the year, but this may be accounted for by the partial depletion of the alluvial deposits near Kanowna. It is estimated that there are now 21,000 miners actively engaged on the gold-fields. In 1899 the production amounted to 1,643,877 oz., valued at £6,[illegible] as compared with 1,050,184 oz., valued at £3,990,698 in 18[illegible] 30,310 oz., valued at £115,183, in 1891.

In New Zealand, the production of gold in 1899 was valued at £1,513,173 the highest yield since 1873. There has been a [illegible] improvement in the production during the last two years, due to the completion of the extensive operations of a developmental nature that were carried out on many of the mining properties across by English capitalists. The introduction of capital has enabled the [illegible] not only to be opened up at greater depths, but also to be worked in a more systematic and economical manner. The improved [illegible] introduced in dredging and hydraulic elevating and stacking [illegible] have made it possible to treat material at a cost of from 1d. to [illegible] cubic yard, so that alluvial drifts containing only a few grains [illegible] to the ton can be profitably worked. A great deal of attention is [illegible] fore, being paid to the auriferous deposits in river-beds and in deep [illegible] ground on the southern gold-fields. It is estimated that [illegible] each of which is said to have cost between £7,500 and £8,500, are [illegible] working in Otago, Southland, and the West Coast districts, and [illegible] are in course of construction. As showing the profitable nature [illegible] dredging, the value of the gold obtained in this manner during the [illegible] ended 31st March, 1899, was £169,689, and constituted of 4 per cent. of the alluvial gold exported.

Prospecting work is still being vigorously pursued in the Auckland district, especially in the dense bush localities which have hitherto escaped exploration on account of their inaccessibility. It is [illegible] that numerous lines of reef have been discovered, and that a [illegible] number of men are engaged in opening up the lodes.

In 1899 the number of gold-miners in the colony was 15,291, of whom 1,716 were Chinese.

Although payable gold was found in Tasmania in 1852, yet it was not until the seventies that the metal was mined for on an extensive scale, the total production to the end of 1870 being less than £[illegible]. Beaconsfield is the principal gold-field in the colony. It is situated on the west side of the river Tamar, 26 miles north-west of Launceston, and formerly produced a large quantity of alluvial gold, although the existence of a deep lead carrying good gold has now been proved. The Tasmania mine, on this lead, is the largest gold producer in the colony, and up to the end of 1899 yielded 172,737 oz., valued at £[illegible], out of which £70[illegible],072 has been paid in dividends. Although its yield is at present small, the Lefroy field has been another important source of gold production. The reefs are now being proved to a greater extent. At Mathinna a large quantity of gold has also been obtained.

cipal mine on this field is the New Golden Gate, the deepest in the ny, its main shaft being 1,330 feet. This mine has yielded 144,00 ounces of gold, valued at about £533,000, and at 31st December, 1899, had d £240,000 in dividends. At Maugana, active prospecting has been ng on for some time and some rich stone has been obtained. In Western District a little alluvial gold is obtained, while north of Pieman River there is a large extent of auriferous country, but ng to the dense vegetation prospecting is difficult.

The gold-mining industry of the colony has made very satisfactory gress during the last ten years; indeed, the yield in 1899, amounting 27,045, has never been exceeded, and was more than 10 per cent. her than the previous record production in 1897, during which year d to the value of £296,660 was won.

Of all the Australasian colonies, South Australia has produced the lest quantity of gold, the total output from the commencement of ing operations being valued at less than two and a quarter millions ing. In the province proper the yield is very small, amounting to 3,853 oz. in 1899, the balance of 19,230 oz. being obtained from Northern Territory. Here the mines are largely in the hands of nese, but a number of properties have recently been acquired by an lish company, which has erected the works necessary for their proper lopment. Included in the total of 1,486 men engaged in gold-mining he Northern Territory in 1899, were 1,372 Chinese. About a fourth hese Chinese are physically incapable of doing a fair day's work, and dangerous from a sanitary point of view. Possessed of no means ever, and with no proper tools for the search for the precious metal, ke out a miserable existence by mining a little alluvial gold.

he following table gives the value of gold raised from the commence- t of mining to the close of the year 1899, with the proportion due ch province:—

State	Production of Gold	
	Value.	Proportion raised in each State
	£	per cent.
New South Wales	47,540,013	11·1
Victoria	254,156,820	59·3
Queensland	47,338,074	11·1
South Australia	2,212,787	0·5
Western Australia	16,906,449	3·9
Tasmania	4,282,192	1·0
Commonwealth	372,442,335	86·9
New Zealand	55,966,498	13·1
Australasia	428,408,833	100·0

[illegible] from the foregoing figures how [illegible] the [illegible] of [illegible] with the exc[illegible] the foremost position amongst the colo[illegible] [illegible] as the [illegible] of gold o[illegible] [illegible] discovery of [illegible] deposits as [illegible] Queensland, [illegible] the world [illegible] to [illegible] the [illegible] for gold [illegible] so po[illegible] [illegible] now entice any [illegible] proportion of th[illegible] [illegible] other pursuits, and this [illegible] that only [illegible] the auriferous area of the continent has been explo[illegible] [illegible] portion fully developed.

[illegible] of gold, which had been declining steadily fo[illegible] reached the lowest point in [illegible]. Since then there ha[illegible] [illegible] revival, and, as will have been gathered from the [illegible] pages, there is considerable activity in [illegible] in all the [illegible] at the present time. The [illegible] of gold in each prov[illegible] [illegible] with the quantity obtained from [illegible] deposits and th[illegible] from quartz crushings where [illegible] is available, [illegible] below:—

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Value of [illegible]
	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
				£
New South Wales	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Victoria	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Queensland	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
			[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]			[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]			[illegible]	[illegible]

[illegible] each miner is given below, [illegible] is carried on [illegible] may be [illegible] that the number of [illegible] overstated, otherwise the [illegible] and this will be the more [illegible] large quantity of gold is [illegible] at the working of which [illegible] many of the men employ[illegible] [illegible] of their time, and devote th[illegible]

more remunerative pursuits But when full allowance is made on this score it will be evident that, in some colonies at least, the search for gold is not a profitable occupation. The small return for South Australia is due to the large number of Chinese engaged in the industry, many of them not possessing proper appliances for working the claims The following table shows the number of miners at work in 1899, with the quantity and value of gold won per man :—

State.	Miners Employed.	Average production of Gold	
		Quantity	Value
	No.	oz.	£ s. d.
New South Wales . .	19,348	25·65	90 10 10
Victoria	30,114	28·38	113 10 0
Queensland	9,758	97·04	290 17 0
South Australia . .	1,086	11·64	39 16 0
Western Australia	21,000	78·28	297 9 3
Tasmania	1,296	64·81	252 14 8
New Zealand . .	13,291	29·31	113 17 0

The greatest development of quartz-reefing is found in Victoria, some of the mines being of a great depth. At the end of 1899 there were seven mines in the Bendigo district over 3,000 feet deep, and fourteen over 2,500 feet deep In the Lazarus mine a depth of 3,424 feet had been reached, and in Lansell's 180 Mine, 3,352 feet. On other fields there were seven mines over 1,400 feet deep, the principal of which were the South Star mine in the Ballarat district, where the shaft is down 2,520 feet, and the Magdala mine in the Stawell district where a depth of 2,410 feet has been reached.

A notice of gold mining would be incomplete without some reference to the remarkably large finds made at various times. Information on this point is meagre and not altogether reliable, as doubtless many nuggets were unearthed of which particulars were never published. Victoria's record is the best, and includes the following nuggets

	lb.	oz.	dwt.
"The Welcome Stranger," found 9th February, 1869	190	0	0
"The Welcome," found 9th June, 1858	184	9	16
One found at Canadian Gully, 31st January, 1853	134	11	0

And others of the following weights: 98 lb. 1 oz. 17 dwt., 93 lb. 1 oz. 11 dwt., 84 lb. 3 oz. 15 dwt., 69 lb. 6 oz., 52 lb. 1 oz., 30 lb. 11 oz. 5 dwt., and 30 lb. 11 oz. 2 dwt.

New South Wales can boast of having produced some splendid specimens. In 1851 a mass of gold was found on the Turon, weighing 106 lb., another, from Burrandong, near Orange, produced when melted at the Sydney Mint 1,182 oz. 6 dwt. of pure gold; and a third, the

The quantity and value of silver and silver lead ore exported [illegible] South Wales to the end of 1899 is shown in the following table [illegible]

Year	Silver		Silver Lead					
			Quantity					
	Quantity	Value.	Ore.		Metal.		Value	T[illegible]
Up to	oz	£	tons	cwt.	tons	cwt.	£	
1882	765,397	187,429	203	12		.	5,385	
1883	[illegible]	16,488	105	17	.	.	1,625	
1884	[illegible]	19,780	4,668	1	.. .		123,174	
1885	794,174	159,487	2,095	16	190	8	107,626	
1886	[illegible]	197,544	4,802	2	. ...		294,485	
1887	[illegible]	32,458	12,529	3			541,952	
1888	[illegible]	[illegible]	11,739	7	18,102	5	1,075,737	[illegible]
1889	[illegible]	[illegible]	46,965	9	34,579	17	1,899,197	[illegible]
1890	[illegible]	[illegible]	89,719	15	41,319	18	2,667,144	[illegible]
1891	[illegible]	134,850	92,383	11	55,396	3	3,484,739	[illegible]
1892	[illegible]	[illegible]	87,504	15	45,850	4	2,420,952	[illegible]
1893	[illegible]	78,131	155,859	1	58,401	3	2,953,589	[illegible]
1894	[illegible]	94,150	137,813	8	42,513	2	2,195,330	[illegible]
1895	[illegible]	[illegible]	190,192	19	29,687	7	1,560,813	[illegible]
1896	[illegible]	[illegible]	267,363	1	19,573	4	1,758,033	[illegible]
1897	[illegible]	16,711	270,913	14	18,105	7	1,681,528	[illegible]
1898	[illegible]	[illegible]	388,460	4	10,108	13	1,644,777	[illegible]
1899	[illegible]	76,913	424,337	5	20,289	10	1,993,744	[illegible]
Total	[illegible]	1,472,258	2,187,657	0	394,117	1	26,410,739	27[illegible]

This amount was approximately made up of 133,656,650 [illegible] silver, valued at £21,559,566, and of 523,179 tons of lead, va[illegible] [illegible] It will be seen that the production of silver in New [illegible] Wales rapidly increased until 1891, when it exceeded in value the [illegible] annual production of gold, even in the palmiest days of the d[illegible] Since that year, however, as will be seen from the returns, the [illegible] being worked does not carry the same quantity of silver or [illegible] formerly, while a heavy fall in the price of the metal has consi[illegible] reduced the value of what has been won. The number of [illegible] engaged in silver and lead mines in 1899 was 7,893, and the [illegible] value of mineral won by each miner engaged amounted to £262 [illegible] as compared with £266 8s. 6d. in 1898, £273 14s. 8d. in 18[illegible] £321 8s. 3d. in 1896.

A company has been formed in London for the purpose of ac[illegible] the rights in New South Wales of a new process for the tr[illegible] of sulphide ores. Works have been constructed at Dapto, ne[illegible] Illawarra, and it is intended to smelt refractory gold ores as [illegible] silver ores. The machinery is capable of treating 200,000 tons [illegible] Another company has erected at Cockle Creek, near Newcastle, [illegible]

allurgical works, which are giving employment to a large number men, and where experiments with the sulphide ores are also being de.

Although indications of silver abound in all the other colonies, no ds of great importance have yet been discovered, the value of the d of Australasia to the end of 1899, exclusive of that of New South les, being only £3,878,168. Next to New South Wales as a silver-ducing province, but far from the position occupied by the former ony, stands Tasmania, where the industry has been steadily developed ing the last few years. During 1897 the production of silver and er lead was valued at £197,225. In 1898 the value of the out- had increased to £270,893, and in 1899 to £377,788. This ease is mainly due to the beginning of smelting operations by Tasmanian Smelting Company. Works have been erected on the unt Zeehan field, and the Company has thus opened up a market large quantities of low grade ore, which otherwise could not have n profitably treated. In the Mount Zeehan and Dundas districts ost the whole quantity produced in the colony is obtained. In first-named district argentiferous lead ore has been found over 30 are miles of country; and the Mount Dundas field, almost adjoining, ends north as far as the Pieman River. The principal mine at unt Zeehan is the Western, which has paid £102,000 in dividends. ittle mining is carried on at the Whyte River and Hazlewood fields; at the Magnet Range, near Waratah, the Magnet Silver Mining mpany has made great progress. Very high class ore has been ned up, and it is the intention of the company to connect the mine h Waratah by tramway, as the increasing output is somewhat in ess of the existing facilities for delivering the ore at the Waratah way station.

ilver is found in various districts in Queensland, but the greatest ivity is at present being shown at Stanthorpe, on the border of New th Wales, and it is from this field that the largest proportion of the duction of that colony was raised in 1899. In that year the output s valued at £15,671, and the industry gave employment to 337 miners. New Zealand silver is found in various localities, principally on e Te Aroha, Thames, and Coromandel fields, but the metal is generally ght in conjunction with gold mining. The production of the colony ing the year 1899 was 349,338 oz., valued at £40,838.

There are no silver mines in Victoria or Western Australia, the small unt of silver produced by the former colony being found associated h gold. The quantity of fine silver extracted from gold during 1899 the Melbourne Branch of the Royal Mint was 87,782 oz. The duction of silver in South Australia is very limited, and it would e that the argentiferous lead-ore fields of Broken Hill and Silverton, ch are almost on the border of the two colonies, are exclusively ined within the boundaries of New South Wales.

Up to the end of 1899 New South Wales had produced nearly 88 cent. of the total value of silver raised in Australasia, Tasma came second, with 6·1 per cent., and the remaining small proport was distributed over the other colonies, Victoria claiming the larg share. The total production of silver in Australasia in 1899, and up the end of that year, was as follows —

State	During 1899.		To end of year 1899.	
	Value.	Proportion raised in each State.	Value.	Proportion raised in each State.
	£	per cent.	£	per cent.
New South Wales .	2,070,657	82·3	27,382,097	87·8
Victoria	10,850	0·5	856,539	2·7
Queensland .	15,671	0·6	713,089	2·2
South Australia	100	0·0	106,043	0·3
Western Australia .	. .. .	. .. ...	250	0·0
Tasmania	377,788	15·0	1,925,578	6·1
Commonwealth..	2,475,366	98·4	31,484,496	99·1
New Zealand	40,838	1·6	276,669	0·9
Australasia	2,516,204	100·0	31,761,165	100·0

The world's production of silver during the ten years ended 189 estimated to have been as follows: —

Year	Ounces.	Year	Ounces.
1890	126,095,000	1895	182,220,000
1891	137,171,000	1896	176,707,000
1892	152,940,000	1897	182,081,000
1893	162,162,000	1898	170,252,000
1894	178,868,000	1899	174,723,000

The annual output of the colony of New South Wales alone is the fore rather more than one-fourteenth of the total production of silver

Copper.

Copper is known to exist in all the colonies, and has been mined extensively in South Australia, and on a much smaller scale in N South Wales, Tasmania, and Queensland. The low quotations wh

ve ruled for a number of years have had a depressing effect upon the dustry, and for some time a few of the mines were closed, but th a consumption which has lately shown a tendency to overtake oduction, and the advanced price of the metal, copper mining is ain attracting considerable attention in Australasia. South Australia so far supplied nearly 70 per cent. of the copper produced in these onies; but Tasmania promises to become a formidable competitor the output of this mineral. In Tasmania deposits were worked on imited scale for a long number of years, but the discovery of a rich lt of copper-bearing country, extending from Mount Lyell past Mount ndall, Mount Read, Mount Murchison, and north of the Pieman to Rocky and Savage Rivers, has completely changed the character the mining industry in the colony, and from a small export of copper e valued at £1,659 in 1896, the annual production since 1897 has come the largest in Australasia. This expansion was chiefly due to the terprise shown by the Mount Lyell Mining and Railway Company, hose mine is situated at Gormanston, about 4 miles by road from eenstown. At the latter place reduction works have been erected, here the ore is treated by the pyritic smelting process, ultimately ing converted into blister copper, containing about 98 per cent. of talhc copper. From the reduction works a railway was laid down Teapookana, on the King River, through most difficult country. his railway has since been extended from Teapookana to Strahan. is stated that a sum of £400,000 was expended by the Company on nstruction and development works before any return was received m the mine; but by the end of September, 1899, the dividends had mounted to £436,262. The Company finds employment for 1,822 en, of whom 1,400 are employed at the reduction works, where for e three years ended June, 1899, the quantity of ore smelted was 06,586 tons, yielding 13,119 tons of blister copper, which contained 2,951 tons of fine copper, 1,363,874 oz. of silver, and 57,467 oz. of gold. ther mines on the same field are at work, and in various parts of e colony copper-mining is receiving attention. In 1897 the value of e copper produced was £323,650. During the following year the oduction amounted to £382,640, and in 1899 it had increased to 1,227,532, or nearly four times the production of 1897. Of the total oduction of the Australasian colonies in 1896, the proportion of smania was only 0·4 per cent., in 1899, however, this colony rnished more than 5·9 per cent., and the increase is more striking hen it is remembered that during the same period the annual output each of the principal copper-producing colonies has been about oubled.

The discovery of copper had a marked effect upon the fortunes of outh Australia at a time when the young and struggling colony was rrounded by difficulties. The first important mine, the Kapunda, as opened up in 1842. It is estimated that at one time 2,000 tons ere produced annually, but the mine was closed in 1879. In 1845

the celebrated Burra Burra mine was discovered. This mine proved to be very rich, and paid £800,000 in dividends to the original owners. For a number of years, however, the mine has been suffered to remain idle, chiefly because the deposits originally worked were found to be depleted. For many years the average yield was from 10,000 to 13,000 tons of ore, yielding from 22 to 23 per cent. of copper. For the period of thirty years during which the mine was worked the output of ore amounted to 234,648 tons, equal to 51,622 tons of copper, valued at £4,749,214. Boring operations are being conducted at the mine for the purpose of determining whether payable ore exists at greater depths than those reached by the original workings. One bore was put down to a depth of 1,004 feet, and in the the opinion of the Government Geologist, the result was highly satisfactory, as it proved the continuance downwards of the copper bearing ground sufficiently to warrant the reopening of a portion of the mine. For the purpose of further testing the ground a second site for boring has been selected. The Wallaroo and Moonta mines, discovered in 1860 and 1861, proved to be even more valuable than the Burra Burra. The Moonta mine employed at one time upwards of 1,600 hands, and still keeps 1,138 men at work. In 1890 these mines were amalgamated, and the estimated value of the copper produced to the end of 1898 is set down at £9,218,482, out of which about £7,000,000 have been expended in wages. About 1,800 miners are now employed. The total dividends paid by these mines is stated to be upwards of £1,700,000. The production of copper in South Australia during 1899 was valued at £406,208, the highest return since 1884, and nearly double that of 1894.

The copper mining industry in New South Wales reached its highest point in 1883, when the production was valued at £172,982. The low price to which the metal fell greatly diminished the production, some of the principal mines being closed for a few years, but, as in the other colonies, there has lately been a revival in the industry. In 1899 the output was valued at £395,451, as compared with £272,686 for the previous year. The principal deposits of copper are found in the central part of the colony, between the Macquarie, Bogan, and Darling Rivers. Deposits have also been found in the New England and Southern districts, as well as at Broken Hill, showing that the mineral is widely distributed throughout the colony. The more important mines are those of Cobar, where the Great Cobar mine, which recommenced work on tribute early in 1894, raised in the following year 37,845 tons of ore, yielding 1,703 tons of smelted copper; in 1896 66,431 tons of ore, yielding 2,650 tons of smelted copper, valued at £107,200; and, in 1897, 64,820 tons of ore, yielding 2,462 tons of smelted copper, valued at £108,306. Similar information for subsequent years is not available, but in the division of which the Great Cobar is the principal mine, 3,794 tons of refined copper, valued at £265,580, were obtained in 1899, as compared with 3,514 tons, valued at £178,900, won during 1898. It may be mentioned that the copper extracted from this mine is found to

contain gold more than sufficient to pay for mining and treating the ore. The syndicate to which the mines belong now gives employment to 700 men. In other portions of the Cobar district considerable activity is also being displayed. At Nymagee, copper to the value of £35,125 was produced during 1899, and in the Mount Hope division 2,174 tons of ore were raised, yielding copper valued at £10,498. In 1899, the Burraga Copper-mine was acquired by an English company, and great improvements and additions have been effected in the plant and machinery. During the year 10,256 tons of ore were treated, containing copper to the value of £36,400. About 300 men are employed at the mine.

Cupriferous deposits abound in Queensland, and at one time there was considerable speculation in copper-mining stock of that colony. Peak Downs and Mount Perry acquired great celebrity in the Australian mining market, but afterwards suffered reactionary depression, and were ultimately abandoned—the result, in a large measure, of over-speculation. It is, however, interesting to note that, after a period of twenty years' inactivity, the Peak Downs Copper mines have been reopened, and it is also anticipated that other mines that have been closed for many years will be reopened. In Northern Queensland copper is found throughout the Cloncurry district, in the upper basin of the Star River, and the Herberton district. The returns from the copper-fields in the colony are at present small, owing to the lack of suitable fuel for smelting purposes, which renders the economic treatment of the ore difficult; and the development of the mines is greatly retarded by the want of easy and cheaper communication with the coast. The great distance from the coast is principally the cause of the stagnation that exists at Cloncurry, a district which is credited with an abundance of mineral wealth. Considerable activity has, however, been displayed in some of the districts. In the Walsh and Tinaroo Mineral Field, the Chillagoe Railway and Mining Co. is making preparations for mining on a very extensive scale. A railway is under construction to connect the mines with Cairns, and the company has leased over 3,000 acres for periods ranging from twenty-five to fifty years. At Rockhampton large quantities of ore have been opened up, and mining and smelting machinery valued at £7,000 is in course of erection. The total production of copper in Queensland during 1899 was valued at £9,498, as compared with £2,166 in 1898.

In Western Australia copper deposits have been worked for some years. Very rich lodes of the metal have been found in the North-ampton, Murchison, and Champion Bay districts, and also in the country to the south of these districts, on the Irwin River. As in the other copper-producing provinces, there has been a revival of the industry in Western Australia. During 1899, the value of the production amounted to £35,938, as compared with £4,266 in 1898, and £1,033 for the previous year. The main portion of the copper was obtained from the West Pilbarra district. The most important workings

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

In [illegible] the number of men employed in copper mining in New South Wales was [illegible] as compared with 1,97[illegible] in [illegible] [illegible] Only a few hands were employed in the other [illegible] South Australia where the number must have amounted to [illegible] In [illegible] the industry afforded employment to a large number of men in Tasmania.

The total value of copper produced in Australasia during and up to the end of 1899, and the proportion furnished by each colony, are given below:—

State	During 1899.		To end of year 1899.	
	Value	Proportion of [illegible] each State	Value	Proportion [illegible] each State
	£	per cent.	£	per cent.
New South Wales	395,451	19·1	5,019,480	15·9
Victoria			[illegible]	0·6
Queensland	9,498	0·4	2,052,425	6·4
South Australia	406,208	19·6	21,935,954	69·6
Western Australia	35,938	1·7	208,653	0·7
Tasmania	1,227,532	59·2	2,102,048	6·7
Commonwealth	2,074,627	100·0	31,504,355	99·9
New Zealand			17,938	0·1
Australasia	2,074,627	100·0	31,522,293	100·0

In June, 1872, copper realised as much as £112 per ton, whilst in ...cember, 1886, the lowest price on record until that time was touched ... only £44 could be obtained for South Australian copper. At the ... of 1887 the price had risen to £70 per ton, and in September, 1888, ... £93. In March, 1889, there was a great fall in the price of the ...al, and in April of that year the quotation in London was as low as ...3 per ton. This was the lowest price reached until June, 1894, when ...ell to £41 10s. From that date there was an upward movement, as ... following quotations will show. At the close of 1896 the London ...e of copper stood at £52 10s. per ton; in February, 1897, £54 10s. ... reached; and at the 31st December, 1898, £60 was the market ...ue. This price was further increased during 1899, and in September ... that year no less than £77 per ton was quoted. Reference has ...ady been made to the depressing influence exerted on the industry ... Australasia by the low prices; but, as previously indicated, the ...dency of consumption to increase in a greater ratio than production, ...d the rise in the price of the metal, has galvanised copper-mining into ...ate of activity which has not been witnessed for many years.

Tin.

Tin was known to exist in Australasia almost from the first years of ...nisation, the earliest mention of the mineral appearing in a report ... discovery by Surgeon Bass on the north coast of Tasmania. In ... form of cassiterite (oxide of tin) it occurs in all the colonies, but ... richest deposits have been found in Tasmania—the Mount Bischoff ...g the most celebrated tin-mine in Australasia. The wealth of ...nsland and the Northern Territory of South Australia in this ...eral, according to the reports of Mr. Jack, a Government Geologist ...he former colony, and the late Rev. Tenison Woods, appears to be ... great.

In New South Wales lode tin occurs principally in the granite and ...am tin under the basaltic country in the extreme north of the ...ny, at Tenterfield, Emmaville, Tingha, and in other districts of New ...gland. The metal has also been discovered in the Barrier Ranges, ...Poolamacca and Euriowie; near Bombala in the Monaro district; at ...dle, near Kempsey; at Jingellic, on the Upper Murray; at Dora ...a, on the Upper Murray; and in the Valley of the Lachlan; but in ...e of these districts has it been worked to any extent. Although the ...eral was discovered by the Rev. W. B. Clarke as far back as the ...r 1853, the opening of the tin-fields of New South Wales only took ...e in the year 1872, but since that date the output from the mines ... been considerable. In 1881 the industry attained its greatest ...ght of prosperity, the export having increased to £568,795 from ...9,779 in 1876. In 1882 the production was but £27,000 less; but

[illegible] that year, owing to protracted dry seasons, which in many cases [illegible] mining operations, combined with the comparatively low price which the metal brought, the value of the output fell considerably, and in 1898 only represented the small sum of £45,638. Another cause of diminished production is that the shallow deposits of stream tin have to a great extent been exhausted, although the deep deposits and the tinlodes have as yet scarcely been touched, nearly all the tin hitherto produced having been taken from alluvial deposits. The high price of the metal had a stimulating effect upon the industry during 1899, and the production of the year, valued at £90,482, was the highest since 1893. The principal leads worked were at the Vegetable Creek Tinfield, near Emmaville, at Tingha, at Deepwater, and at Elsmore, in the Inverell district. The only lode worked is the Ottery. The mine is situated at Tent Hill, in the Emmaville district, and was worked continuously throughout the year with very satisfactory results. The number of miners employed during 1899 was 1,482, of whom 118 were Chinese.

Tasmania has been the largest producer of tin in Australasia. As in New South Wales, a very large proportion of the tin hitherto produced has been from alluvial deposits, the lodes, except at the Mount Bischoff mine, having been comparatively neglected. There are considerable areas of alluvial tin ground in the eastern and north-eastern divisions of the colony, and a plentiful supply of water would result in a greatly increased production. Many claims remained unworked on account of the continuous dry weather; nevertheless, the value of the output during 1899, although not so high as in most of the early years of production, exceeded that of any year since 1889. The increase was mainly due to the high price of the metal. The Mount Bischoff mine, which is worked as an open quarry, is the largest producer of tin in the colony, and has paid £1,648,000 in dividends. The company has erected smelting works at Launceston, where most of the tin ore raised in the island is treated. In the Blue Tier district, where several companies have erected plant for working the low grade ores found there, the output is considered very satisfactory. Mining operations have also been resumed in the Ben Lomond district, and during the year crushing was commenced at the Rex Hill mine. The lodes in the vicinity of Mount Heemskirk have, till recently, been neglected, but the present satisfactory price of the metal has stimulated mining in that district, as well as in other parts of the colony, and, although the work done has been of a preparatory character, it is expected that tin ore will shortly be sent away in large quantities. About thirty men are employed on the various claims, and the machinery at the New West Cumberland mine has been thoroughly overhauled. Tin-dredging is also receiving considerable attention. Two companies have commenced operations on the Ringarooma River, with very encouraging results. Dredging claims have also been taken up along the foreshore at St. Helens Point and George's Bay, and it is anticipated that the new

y will have a large measure of success. In 1899 the number of ers in the colony was 1,026, and the production was valued at 4.

most important tin-mines in Queensland are in the Herberton south-west of Cairns; at Cooktown, on the Annan and Bloom- vers, and at Stanthorpe, on the border of New South Wales. rberton is the chief tin mining centre of Queensland, and the out this district in 1899 was valued at £58,058. The tin in this is chiefly obtained from lodes. Herberton and Stanthorpe have d more than three-fourths of the total production of the colony. past few years the production greatly decreased in conse- of the low price of the metal; but with the rise in values, and onomic treatment of the ores, the industry naturally attracted tention in 1899, when the yield was valued at £77,302, as com with £36,502 in 1898, and £37,509 in 1897. During 1899 a rable amount of work was carried out, in connection with the ction of roads, tramways, and reservoirs, and cutting and ng water races. With a continuance of the present satisfactory e prospects of the industry are extremely encouraging.

yield of tin in Victoria is very small, and until lately no fields of nce had been discovered, but towards the latter end of 1890 re deposits were reported to exist in the Gippsland district at and Tarwin. In 1899 only 156 tons of tin, valued at £11,200, oduced In South Australia tin mining is unimportant. During small quantity, valued at £180, was exported from Port Darwin, Northern Territory. In Western Australia the tin-fields are at Greenbushes: but, until recently, the industry, owing to the e, and the attraction exerted on capital by the gold fields, has n in a flourishing condition. The high price of the metal, how- as again turned attention to tin-mining, and during 1899 the amounted to £25,270, as compared with £3,960, the average production of the three previous years During the year, tin covered near Marble Bar, on the Pilbarra goldfield. A number s have been taken up, and there is every prospect of the find ing into a payable field. The industry gave employment to 698 during the year. There is no record of any production of tin in aland.

tin-mining industry has been subject to frequent fluctuations, ly of late years. The value of the metal in the European market 59 per ton in 1872, £52 in 1878, £114 in 1880 and 1882, and 1884. A gradual recovery then took place, until in 1888 the ached £121. During the ten years from 1888 to 1898, tin was to an almost continuous fall in price, realising in 1898 only one- that obtained a decade before. The metal, however, has now great advance in price, London quotations in December, 1899, £125 10s. per ton, as compared with £82 in 1898, £63 in 1897,

) and vivianite (phosphate of iron) are found in New Zealand. latter also occurs in New South Wales, intermingled with copper tin ores.

The principal works in New South Wales for the manufacture of from the ore are situated at Eskbank, near Lithgow, where red eous ores, averaging 22 per cent., and brown hematite, yielding 50 cent., metallic iron, have been successfully treated. Abundance of and limestone are found in the neighbourhood. This establish-t, however, has for some time abandoned the manufacture of pig-, for which it was originally built. The work now carried on sists of the re-rolling of old rails, and the manufacture of iron bars, s, and nails, and of ordinary castings. The quantity manufactured scrap during 1899 was 6,500 tons, valued at £55,550. A successful empt has been made at Mittagong to make gas-pipes, etc., from iron lted from the ore and taken direct to the mould without first king it into pig iron. Some years ago the iron smelting works at roy, Mittagong, were established, but after producing a considerable ntity of pig-iron the operations were discontinued. Some samples ore, coal, and limestone obtained in this district, with pig iron and ings manufactured therefrom, were exhibited at the late Mining ibition in London, and obtained a first award. Large quantities of ore have been raised from the deposits situated in the Marulan, lburn, Bredalbane, Mittagong, and Carcoar districts and despatched the smelting-works at Dapto and Cockle Creek, where it has been d as flux, the gold contents of the ore helping to defray the extra t of railway carriage. The new industry is giving employment to a e number of men. Parcels of iron oxide have also been sent from Fitzroy and other ironstone deposits in the Mittagong district to various gas-works of the Australasian colonies. The oxide is used in ifying the gas.

During the year 1900, the Government of New South Wales agreed ake 100,000 tons of steel rails, delivery to extend over a period of years, from a large company which purposed erecting iron and steel s in the vicinity of Port Kembla, at a cost of between £500,000 £750,000. The company has deposited £10,000 with the Treasury guarantee of good faith.

In Tasmania, where large deposits of pure red and brown hematite known to exist, a commencement has been made in the production iron ore. In 1896, 200 tons of ore, valued at £50, were raised, and the following year 894 tons of iron ore, of a declared value of £812, e exported. The shipments in 1898 comprised 1,598 tons, valued £1 per ton; and during 1899 the output increased to 3,532 tons, ued at £3,471. Very extensive iron deposits exist in the vicinity the Blythe River, on the north west coast, and a company has ently been formed to develop the mines thoroughly. It is intended expend £30,000 in constructing a railway and other necessary

works. The Government of South Australia has offered a bonus £2,000 for the first 500 tons of pig iron produced in that colony. Western Australia a limited demand for iron ore by the Smelt Company at Fremantle, resulted in 12,852 tons, valued at £8,9 being mined during 1899. This is the first year in which any rec of the production of the mineral exists.

Sulphuretted iron ores (pyrites) are of little intrinsic value, but frequently of considerable worth on account of the other minerals w which they are associated, common pyrites being often aurifero Mispickel differs from other pyrites inasmuch as it contains arsenic, sometimes gold and silver, and is frequently associated with tin a copper ores, but the extraction of gold is rendered difficult on accou of the presence of the arsenic. These minerals (pyrites) are comm to all the colonies.

[illegible]

[illegible] Australasia, and is [illegible] South Wales, [illegible] Armidale, Bathurst [illegible] the North Coast. [illegible] grove, near Armidale, [illegible] colony, is situated. [illegible] of a number of analyses, ma[illegible] Museum, show from 29.57 to [illegible] these encouraging [illegible] tempt Australian producers [illegible] was raised some years ago [illegible] district, but these mines are [illegible] and partly worked near [illegible] The value of antimony raised [illegible] the end of that year, £190,621. [illegible] during the last five years from the [illegible] is not likely to improve unt[illegible]

[illegible] a still greater falling off in the produ[illegible] of activity in 1890 which gave [illegible] industry was absolutely at a stat[illegible] showing development in 1891, [illegible] compared with that of for[illegible] Victoria the production of the metal [illegible] also the production of antimony [illegible] which year only 10 tons, valued at £[illegible] Good lodes of stibnite (sulphid[illegible] Roebourne, in Western Australia [illegible] to work them.

The following table shows the value of antimony produced in Australasia up to the end of 1899 :—

State.	Value.	Proportion raised in each State
	£	per cent.
New South Wales	190,621	41·8
Victoria	177,174	38·9
Queensland	35,458	7·8
Commonwealth	403,253	88·5
New Zealand	52,361	11·5
Australasia	455,614	100·0

Bismuth.

Bismuth is known to exist in all the Australian colonies, but up to the present time it has been mined for in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, and Tasmania only. It is usually found in association with tin and other minerals, but in one instance a mass of native bismuth, weighing 30 lb., was found in New South Wales. The principal mine in the mother colony is situated at Kingsgate, in the New England district, where the mineral is generally associated with molybdenum and gold; this mine, however, is at present practically closed. The value of bismuth produced up to the end of 1899 in New South Wales and Queensland was £50,880 and £58,803 respectively. In the former colony the production in 1899 was valued at £3,355, while in Queensland the output in that year only amounted to £494. In Tasmania a company has been formed to work the bismuth deposits on Bell Mount. The lodes are opening up satisfactorily, and a small quantity of ore has been sent away.

Manganese

Manganese probably exists in all the colonies, deposits having been found in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, New Zealand, and Western Australia—the richest specimens in New South Wales and New Zealand. Little, however, has been done to utilise the deposits, the demands of the colonial markets being extremely limited, but in consequence of the extensive iron ores of New South Wales being worked on a large scale, the manganese, plentiful as it is in that colony, will become of commercial importance. The ore generally occurs in the form of oxides, manganite, and pyrolusite, and contains a high percentage of peroxide of manganese. The production of manganese in New Zealand

to the end of the year 1899 was valued at £[illegible]644. In that colony [illegible] output has shrunk to [illegible], being valued in 189[illegible] £407. In Queensland during the same year, [illegible] tons, valued at £[illegible] were raised; but in New South Wales nothing was produced in [illegible] course of the twelve months.

Platinum.

Platinum and the allied [illegible] Iridosmine have been fo[illegible] in New South Wales [illegible] quantities, the [illegible] occurring commonly with [illegible] drifts. Beach [illegible] in the Bathurst district [illegible] associated with gold [illegible] considerable quantities [illegible]. A special lease [illegible] abandoned ground [illegible] Creek, has [illegible] applied [illegible] to try the [illegible] by [illegible] the output [illegible] made to [illegible] has also [illegible] near Br[illegible] [illegible] in 1899 to [illegible] with the [illegible] year was 638 [illegible] is handicap[illegible] at the claims. [illegible] and is much purer [illegible] The quantity of [illegible] and to the end of [illegible] have also been found in N[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] in New Zealand, associat[illegible] chessite. It has [illegible] and other parts of [illegible] the Western Line [illegible] as would not repay [illegible] has been found in associati[illegible]

[illegible] Western Australia, large [illegible] have been discovered in the [illegible]

Lead.

[illegible] colonies, but is worked [illegible] Western Australia the lead occurs [illegible] of great richness, but the quant[illegible]

of silver mixed with it is very small. The lodes are most frequently of great size, carrying huge masses of galena, and contain so little gangue that the ore can be very easily dressed to 83 or 84 per cent. The Government having offered £10,000 for the first 10,000 tons of lead smelted in the colony, works were erected to treat the ore, but the operations of the company were not successful, and the works were closed. Since 1845 Western Australia has exported 33,960 tons of lead ore, valued at £370,287. The chief mining centres for this mineral are in the Northampton district, between Geraldton and Murchison, but very little has been raised since 1890. As will be gathered from the remarks on silver, the association of lead with this metal in the Broken Hill mines of New South Wales adds very greatly to the value of the product. Up to the end of 1899 the quantity of lead in the ores raised is estimated to have been 523,179 tons.

Other Metals.

Mercury, in the form of sulphides or cinnabar, is found in New South Wales, Queensland, and New Zealand. In New South Wales, in the form of cinnabar, it has been discovered on the Cudgegong River, near Lystone, and it also occurs at Bingara, Solferino, Yulgilbar, and Wooma. In the latter place the assays of ore yielded 22 per cent. of mercury. Very large and rich deposits have been found on Noggriga Creek, near Yulgilbar, and three 40-acre blocks have been taken up. Cinnabar leases have also been applied for in the Bingara district.

Titanium, of the varieties known as octahedrite and brookite, is found in alluvial deposits in New South Wales, in conjunction with diamonds.

Wolfram (tungstate of iron and manganese) occurs in some of the colonies, notably in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and New Zealand. In Queensland, a temporary rise in the price of this mineral, owing to the depletion of stocks on the English market, so stimulated its production that the yield during 1899 was very much greater than in any former year, and amounted to 259 tons, valued at £10,060. To the end of 1899, 483 tons, of a value of £14,107, have been raised in the colony. Scheelite, another variety of tungsten, is also found in the last mentioned colony. Molybdenum, in the form of molybdenite (sulphide of molybdenum), is found in New South Wales and Victoria, associated in the former colony with tin or bismuth in quartz reefs.

Zinc ores, in the several varieties of carbonates, silicates, oxide, sulphide, and sulphate of zinc, have been found in several of the Australasian colonies, but have attracted little attention, except in New South Wales, where the metal is usually found associated with silver, lead, and copper; and various experiments are being made for the purpose of ascertaining whether it can be profitably extracted. During the last years attention has been directed by the Broken Hill Proprietary

Company to the production of a high grade zinc concentrate [illegible] that a fair proportion of [illegible] although the attempts so far to [illegible] have only been partially successfu[illegible] [illegible] during 1899 was £49,207, as compar[illegible] [illegible] during 1897. The value of [illegible] was £112,879.

[illegible] of New Caledonia, has up[illegible] [illegible] the Australasian colonies except [illegible] attempts have been made to [illegible] In 1894 Tasmania [illegible] but nothing has been [illegible]

[illegible] Wales and Victoria, and efforts ha[illegible] [illegible] the metal having [illegible] and no attempt [illegible] The manganese ore [illegible] often contain a small per[illegible] further attempts tow[illegible] worked at the present time [illegible] has been opened up [illegible] exported.

[illegible] in New Zealand an[illegible] found in the northern [illegible] districts, and also [illegible] serpentine. The chrome [illegible] date, although an [illegible] at Bowling Alley Poi[illegible] and 1895 in the Clarence [illegible] operations were carried on [illegible] tons of ore being desp[illegible] numerous discoveries of [illegible] has remained the only [illegible] The exports of chrome ore in 1894, [illegible] tons, 4,299 tons, and [illegible] tons [illegible] has prejudicially affected [illegible] 1897 the export still amounted to [illegible] considerable portion of this was raised in pr[illegible] in 1898 decreased to [illegible] tons, [illegible] during 1899 to the considerable amount of [illegible] The industry is still confined to the Gun[illegible] ore abounds. The value of chrome iron ore [illegible] was £70,975. In New Zealand chrome ore [illegible] was extracted between 1858 and 1866, but the[illegible] production since the latter year.

[illegible] in large quantities in the volcanic regions of [illegible] will doubtless some day become an article of com[illegible]

so said to occur in small quantities at Mount Wingen, in the Hunter district of New South Wales, at Tarcutta, near Wagga s and at Louisa Creek, near Mudgee.

ic, in its well-known and beautiful forms, orpiment and realgar, d in New South Wales and Victoria. It usually occurs in ion with other minerals, in veins.

Coal.

Australasian colonies have been bountifully supplied by Nature neral fuel. Five distinct varieties of black coal, of well charac- types, may be distinguished, and these, with the two extremes of oal or lignite, and anthracite, form a perfectly continuous series. tistical purposes, however, they are all included under the generic f "coal," and therefore these minerals will be considered here der the three main heads—lignite, coal, and anthracite.

n coal or lignite occurs principally in the colonies of New and Victoria. Attempts have frequently been made to use neral for ordinary fuel purposes, but its inferior quality has ed its general use. In Victoria, during 1898, 2,860 tons of oal were raised, valued at £767. There was no output during The fields of lignite in New Zealand are roughly estimated to about 500 million tons; and a small quantity is raised annually. coal forms one of the principal mineral resources of New South and in New Zealand and other colonies the rich deposits of this substance are rapidly being developed. That they will form an nt source of commercial prosperity cannot be doubted, as the areas of the coal-fields of this class have been roughly estimated ain about 500 million tons of coal in New Zealand, and 78,198 tons in New South Wales. New Zealand also possesses a quality of bituminous coal, which is found on the west coast Middle Island. An estimate of the probable contents of these ds is given as 200 million tons. Coal of a very fair description covered in the basin of the Irwin River, in Western Australia, back as the year 1846. It has been ascertained from recent ions that the area of carboniferous formation in that colony from the Irwin northwards to the Gascoyne River, about 300 stant, and probably all the way to the Kimberley district. The portant discovery of coal in the colony so far as that made in of the Collie River, near Bunbury, to the south of Perth. The been tested and found to be of good quality; and there are for supposing that there are 250 million tons on this field. ck, formerly Government Geologist of Queensland, gave it opinion that the extent of the coal-fields of that colony is lly unlimited, and that the carboniferous formations extend to derable distance under the Great Western Plains. It is roughly

gave employment to 10,339 persons, of whom 8,217 were der ground, and 2,122 above ground. The average quantity cted per miner was 559 tons, as against an average of 574 previous year, and 560 tons in 1897. For the ten years the average quantity of coal extracted per miner was 486 at the mean price of coal at the pit's mouth, was equivalent 7d. Taking all persons employed at the mines, both above ground, the average for the ten years would be 394 tons, £129 7s. 5d. per man. This production is certainly large, favourably with the results exhibited by the principal countries of the world, as will be evident from the following ng the averages for the leading countries, based on the ersons employed :

Country	Quantity of coal raised per miner.	Value at the pit's mouth per ton.	Total value of coal raised per miner.
	tons.	s. d.	£ s. d.
uth Wales	394	6 7	129 7 5
Britain	286	6 2	90 15 6
States	447	5 4	118 16 3
y	267	6 4	84 7 0
.. ..	202	8 7	86 15 6
. ...	173	8 0	69 4 6
....	203	5 6	56 4 9

h Wales is its own chief customer. In 1899, out of a total 4,597,028 tons, the consumption amounted to 1,798,505 r 39 per cent. The colony of Victoria took the next of the output, viz., 709,684 tons, or 25 per cent. of a of 2,798,523 tons. The quantity of coal required for local shows a satisfactory increase during most years. The mption per head increased from 16 cwt. in 1877 to 27 cwt. he larger use of steam for railway locomotives and for ng and other purposes, as well as the multiplication of gas- nts for a great portion of the increase; but it must also mind that there is a large and growing demand for bunker h-going steamers, which appears not as an export, but as home consumption The amount of coal taken by the ing 1899 was about 375,000 tons.

The progress of the export trade of New South Wales, from 1899, is shown in the following table:—

Exported to—	Quantity			Value	
	1851	1891	1899	1851	1899
	tons	tons	tons	£	£
[illegible]	607,135	1,510,976	1,624,187	726,772	1,[illegible]
[illegible]	158,[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	89,244	167,[illegible]
[illegible]	8,249	14,760	8,571	2,414	[illegible]
[illegible]	17,[illegible]26	141,055	100,[illegible]08	8,[illegible]11	7[illegible]
[illegible]	159,[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	68,172	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	79,404	67,[illegible]24	[illegible]	30,174	[illegible]
Total	1,020,844	2,514,[illegible]	2,[illegible]	417,530	1,[illegible]

New Zealand is the only other colony in a position to expor[illegible] trade in 1851, 1891, and 1899 was as follows:

Exported to	Quantity			Value	
	1851	1891	1899	1851	1899
	tons	tons	tons	£	£
[illegible] colonies	6,049	14,257	66,096	5,022	8,488
[illegible]		68,871	4,823	.	76,027
[illegible] Norfolk Island	21	3,282	5,877	25	2,469
[illegible] Islands, etc.	551	5,234	12,744	563	4,189
Total	6,621	91,644	89,480	5,610	91,173

The exports to the United Kingdom from New Zealand, as w[illegible] from New South Wales, consisted entirely of bunker coal, for [illegible]. Most of the collieries of the former colony are on the W[illegible] coast of the South [illegible]. The chief mines are at Westport [illegible] [illegible] of coal produced in 1899 [illegible] mines contributed 20[illegible] the Kaitangata, 111,710 to [illegible] a steady increase in the quan[illegible] a corresponding decrease in the [illegible] coal mines in operation in [illegible] to 1,153 men.

[illegible] areas of coal found in New Zealand [illegible] to the production in 1899 will be of [illegible]:

[illegible] coal	588,036	tons.
[illegible]	37,835	"
[illegible] coal	314,542	"
[illegible]	34,821	"
Total	975,234	"

[illegible] is an established industry in Queensland, and is [illegible] In 1899 the production showed an increa[illegible]

000 tons over that of the previous year, and 1,142 men were
ed in coal-mining in 1899. The mines, however, are situated
from the coast to permit of serious competition with Newcastle
export trade, and the output is practically restricted to supplying
requirements. New South Wales still exports on an average
50,000 tons annually to Queensland. Of the total production of
0 tons in the northern colony in 1899, 373,655 tons were obtained
Ipswich district, 111,414 tons at Wide Bay, and 8,940 tons in
ermont district.

Tasmania coal of good quality has been found in the lower measures
permo-carboniferous rocks, principally in the basins of the Mersey
e Don in the north, and at Adventure Bay and Port Cygnet in
uth, as well as in the upper measures of the triassic or jurassic
which are extensively developed in the eastern and north-eastern
of the colony. Mining is carried on in various districts in the
, but the principal mines are the Mount Nicholas and Cornwall
Mount Nicholas Range, which contribute about 88 per cent. of the
l production. A small quantity of coal is produced at the Mersey
lverton Mines, and in 1898 work was resumed at the mines near
Cygnet. A discovery has been reported from Swansea, on the
Coast, and during 1899 a seam of bituminous coal was found at
on the West Coast. Tasmania still relies largely on New South
to supply coal for local requirements. Since 1896 the export of
om New South Wales to Tasmania has increased from 57,000 tons
000 tons. During 1899 there were 138 men engaged in coal-
in the colony, and the output amounted to 43,113 tons, valued
,008.

k coal has been discovered in Victoria, and is now being raised
easingly large quantities In 1899 the production amounted to
0 tons, valued at £113,522, as compared with 22,834 tons, valued
,731, in 1891. During this period the export from New South
to Victoria has fallen from 954,277 tons to 709,684 tons. The
al collieries in the colony are the Outtrim Howitt, from which
1 tons were obtained, followed by the Jumbunna, with 73,652
and the Coal Creek Proprietary, with 56,843 tons. In South
lia, at Leigh's Creek, north of Port Augusta, coal-beds have been
ered. A company has been formed for the purpose of working the
s, and small quantities have been raised during the last three years.
esults of trials of this coal on the Government railways have,
er, been unsatisfactory. Great activity is now being shown on the
coal-field in Western Australia. Boring operations having proved
sful, a coal-mining district was constituted in February, 1896,
hrown open for selection in the following year, 22 square miles
immediately applied for. Satisfactory tests of Collie coal have
made, and it is now used extensively on the Government railways
on the gold fields, and it has also been proved suitable for naval
es, one great advantage being that it gives out little or no smoke.

The line of railway from Brunswick has now been completed, contributed not a little to the satisfactory developments that took p during the year, the output having increased from 3,508 tons in 1 to 54,336 in 1899, of which 49,427 tons were raised at the Wall colliery.

The quantity of coal extracted annually in Australasia now exce 6,426,000 tons, valued at about £2,146,000. The production of e colony during the year 1899 was as follows: –

State	Quantity.	Value	
		Total.	Proportion raised in each State
	tons.	£	per cent.
New South Wales	4,597,028	1,325,799	61·8
Victoria	262,380	113,522	5·3
Queensland	494,009	175,715	8·2
Western Australia	54,336	25,951	1·2
Tasmania	43,113	17,008	0·8
Commonwealth	5,450,866	1,657,995	77·3
New Zealand	975,234	487,617	22·7
Australasia	6,426,100	2,145,612	100·0

The total quantity and value of the coal produced in the Australas colonies up to the end of 1899 are shown below. A small quantity h been raised in South Australia, but is not yet of sufficient importa to warrant inclusion in the table: -

State	Quantity.	Value	
		Total.	Proportion raised in each State
	tons.	£	per cent.
New South Wales	85,969,136	35,647,004	76·8
Victoria	1,526,968	793,568	1·7
Queensland	5,658,919	2,458,407	5·3
Western Australia	57,844	27,576	0·1
Tasmania	704,193	385,303	0·8
Commonwealth	93,917,060	39,311,858	84·7
New Zealand	13,458,880	7,099,615	15·3
Australasia	107,375,940	46,411,473	100·0

ring the year 1899 this industry gave direct employment in and t the mines to the following numbers of persons in the several ies :—

	No.
New South Wales	10,339
Victoria	880
Queensland	1,142
Western Australia	192
Tasmania	138
New Zealand	2,153

he average price of coal per ton varies in the colonies very con- ably. In New South Wales, from the date of the commencement ining to the end of the year 1899, the average price obtained has 8s. 4d, but the mean of the last ten years has not been more than d. In 1899 the average price per ton of coal at the pit's mouth as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
New South Wales	0	5	9
Victoria	0	8	8
Queensland	0	7	1
Western Australia	0	9	7
Tasmania	0	7	11
Commonwealth	0	6	1
New Zealand	0	10	0
Australasia	0	6	8

nthracite is found on the island of Tasmania. It is a hard and y mineral, burning with difficulty, and possesses very little com- ial value in countries where ordinary coal abounds. In Queensland nthracite seam was recently discovered on the Dawson Coal Field, observations show that the deposit is a very extensive one.

he following table shows the annual coal production of the principal tries of the world. The figures refer to the year 1898, except those Great Britain, United States, and Australasia, which refer to the r 1899 :—

Country.	Tons of 2,240 lb.
Great Britain	220,094,780
United States	226,041,760
Germany	125,872,500
Austria Hungary	37,210,050
France	31,836,100
Belgium	23,063,500
Canada	4,075,670
Australasia	6,426,100

[illegible] SHALE

[illegible] several parts of New South [illegible] what similar to the bogh[illegible] [illegible] percentage of volati[illegible] [illegible] The richest quality [illegible] [illegible] 17,000 to 18,000 [illegible] [illegible] 40 sperm candles whe[illegible] [illegible] New South Wales Shale [illegible] [illegible] Kerosene [illegible] [illegible] Katoomba, not only [illegible] [illegible] from it petroleum [illegible] [illegible] when the mines were [illegible] [illegible] kerosene shale [illegible] [illegible] The average [illegible] [illegible] per ton. The [illegible] [illegible] averaged £1 2s. 3d. [illegible] [illegible] the production of [illegible] [illegible] Wales during 1897, [illegible]

[illegible]	[illegible]		[illegible]		[illegible]	
	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Value	Quantity	Value
	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	£	tons	£
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	482	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	547	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	2,440	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	3,[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]		
[illegible]	[illegible]					
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	3,110	1,538	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	341	734	250	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	27,197	9,147	[illegible]

[illegible] have been found in New Zealand [illegible] Attempts have been made [illegible] but so far unsuccessfully. [illegible] properties required in illuminating [illegible] [illegible] purposes.

The net import of kerosene into Australasia in 1899 is shown below :—

State.	Quantity.	Value
	gallons.	£
New South Wales	3,834,772	149,223
Victoria	3,147,005	100,945
Queensland	1,880,251	71,421
South Australia	1,333,403	40,624
Western Australia	1,251,890	37,128
Tasmania	281,235	9,779
Commonwealth	11,694,556	408,520
New Zealand	1,415,341	47,409
Australasia	13,109,897	455,929

Other Carbon Minerals.

Of all the mineral forms of carbon the diamond is the purest, but as it is usual to class this precious substance under the head of gems that custom will be followed in the present instance.

Graphite, or plumbago, which stands second to the diamond in point of purity, has been discovered in New Zealand, in the form of detached nodules of pure mineral. It also occurs in impure masses where it comes into contact with the coal measures. This mineral, up to the present time, has not been found in any of the other colonies except New South Wales, where in 1889 a lode 6 feet wide, but of inferior quality, was discovered near Undercliff, in the New England district; and in Western Australia, in which colony, however, owing principally to difficulties of transit, very little of it has been worked.

Ozokerite, or mineral wax, is reported to have been found at Coolah, in New South Wales.

Elaterite, mineral caoutchouc, or elastic bitumen, is said to have been discovered in New South Wales and South Australia. In the last-named colony a substance very similar to elaterite has been discovered in the Coorong Lagoons, and has received the name of coorongite. Up to the present time neither the extent of these finds nor their commercial value has been ascertained.

Bitumen is known to exist in Victoria, and is reported to have been found near the township of Coonabarabran, in New South Wales.

Kauri Gum, a resinous substance somewhat resembling amber in appearance, and like that product an exudation from trees, is found only in the Auckland province of New Zealand, where it is included under the head of minerals, although more logically entitled to be considered as a vegetable product. The best sort is dug out of the ground,

but considerable quantities of inferior grades are taken from the [illegible] of standing trees. In New Zealand an extensive and lucrative com[illegible] is carried on in kauri gum. It is computed that the total val[illegible] this product obtained from 1853 to the end of 1899 was £9,70[illegible] In the year [illegible] the quantity obtained represented a value of £60[illegible] and gave employment to about 7,000 persons, both European [illegible] Maori. Kauri gum is included in the figures in this chapter given [illegible] mineral production.

Salts.

[illegible] has been found in rock crevices in several [illegible] South Wales, but it is not known to exist in large depo[illegible] [illegible] commercial importance. Natron is said to occur in [illegible] of the Namoi River, in the same colony. It appea[illegible] [illegible] from the mud-wells of that region. Epsomite, or epsom [illegible] of magnesia), is seen as an efflorescence in caves and [illegible] of the Hawkesbury sandstone formation, and is foun[illegible] [illegible] of New South Wales.

Large deposits of alum occur [illegible] to the village of Bullade[illegible] [illegible] from Port Stephens, New South Wales. Up to the end of [illegible] 10,681 tons of [illegible] there, most of wh[illegible] [illegible] sent to England [illegible] said to yield well, [illegible] quantity of the [illegible] for local consu[illegible] [illegible]. During 1[illegible] the [illegible] tons of [illegible] [illegible] at £2,7[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Wales, South Austra[illegible] New Zealand [illegible] South Wales marble [illegible] [illegible] fine specimen [illegible]

[illegible] New Zealand, where [illegible] [illegible] stone is also [illegible] [illegible] of a beautiful creamy [illegible] [illegible] not only in the colony wh[illegible] [illegible] Australia, which [illegible] [illegible] establishment of [illegible] edifices [illegible] on the Myall Lakes, near [illegible] [illegible] large quantities were forwarded [illegible] [illegible] manufacture of hydraulic lime [illegible] [illegible] lack of a market the operations [illegible]

[illegible] in clay beds in New South Wales [illegible] [illegible] Lakes of South Australia, where [illegible] [illegible] present in the water. It [illegible] [illegible] mineral is of commercial value for [illegible]

re of cement and plaster of Paris, and also as a fertiliser. A
n South Australia has recently raised a considerable quantity
tter purpose. It is found in the form of an insoluble salt in
h Wales, Victoria, and New Zealand.

, another mineral of considerable commercial importance, and
able as a manure, occurs in several districts of New South
incipally on the Lachlan River, at the head of the Abercrombie,
Clarence River district.

is of common occurrence in all parts of Australasia. Rock
hite, tinted, and smoky quartz are frequently met with, as
arieties of crystalline quartz, such as amethyst, jasper, and
ich possess some commercial value.

, or rotten stone, an infusorial earth, consisting of hydrous
ich has some value for commercial purposes, has been found
South Wales, Victoria, and New Zealand. Meerschaum is
to have been discovered near Tamworth and in the Richmond
trict, in New South Wales.

also found in granitic country, chiefly in the New England
ier districts. In Western Australia very good mica has been
Bindoon, and also on the Blackwood River, near Cape Leeuwin
nica was being worked near Mingun, on the Upper Gascoyne:
w years ago the Western Australian Government offered a
exceeding £500 for the export of at least 2 tons of mica, to
t less than 1s. 6d. per lb., within three months of the 28th
898. Some promising discoveries have been made near Her
Northern Queensland. In the Northern Territory of South
mica has been obtained on a small scale for a number of years.
he production was valued at £2,638; and in 1896, at £732.

, fire-clays, and brick-clays are common to all the colonies.
the vicinity of cities and townships, however, little use has
of the abundant deposits of clay. Kaolin, or porcelain clay,
capable of application to commercial purposes, has not as yet
sed to any extent, though found in several places in New
les and in Western Australia.

os has been found in New South Wales in the Gundagai,
and Broken Hill districts in the last-mentioned district in
ble quantities. Several specimens of very fair quality have
met with in Western Australia: and the Government of the
ered a bonus not exceeding £500 for the export of 50 tons
s, of a value of not less than £10 per ton. In the colony of
, in the vicinity of Beaconsfield, asbestos is known to exist in
ble quantities.

GEMS AND GEMSTONES.

escriptions of gems and gemstones have been discovered in
rts of the Australasian colonies, but systematic search has
principally for the diamond and the noble opal.

Diamonds are found in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and South Australia, but only in the first-named colony have any attempts been made to work the diamond drifts. The existence of diamonds and other gem-stones in the territory of New South Wales had been known for years before an attempt was made to work the deposits in 1872. In the course of the following year several deposits of [illegible] tiferous wash were discovered at Bingara, in the New England district. The number of diamonds found in the colony to the end of [illegible] estimated at [illegible], the largest being one of 5⅞ carats, or [illegible] grains. [illegible] has been experienced in obtaining [illegible] statistics of the production, and it is believed that the output [illegible] The diamonds occur in old tertiary [illegible] drifts, and in the more recent drifts derived from them. The deposits [illegible] in the Inverell, Bingara, Mittagong, Cudgegong, [illegible] are extensive, and have not yet been thoroughly [illegible] The best of the New South Wales diamonds are [illegible] African diamonds, and are classed [illegible] Brazilian gems. During the year [illegible] found diamonds weighing 2,19[illegible] carats [illegible] In 1897, 1,200 carats of diamonds were [illegible] valued at £1,050. In 1892 [illegible] were obtained from the Monte Christo Mine [illegible] The majority of diamonds obtained in this district [illegible] the largest vary from 2 to 3 carats. [illegible] Bingara district to the end of 1893 is said to have [illegible] carats, valued at £15,375. In 1894 the only [illegible] the Bingara, Mittagong, and Denison [illegible] industry was still quiet, but at Boggy Camp [illegible] west of Tingha, a revival took place [illegible] weighing in the aggregate 1,3[illegible] carats [illegible] No estimate of the returns [illegible] the output of gems in 1897 was [illegible] In 1898 14,920 carats were [illegible] associated with tin in considerable [illegible] of new machinery was [illegible] developed, although work was greatly [illegible] of water. The output from [illegible] was set down at 1,573 carats, valued [illegible] was manifested in the [illegible] a portion of the year restricted [illegible] an exploratory character. The yield [illegible] was derived from the Boggy Camp [illegible] carats, valued at £10,350.

[illegible] in the Upper Cretaceous formation [illegible] Wilcannia, New South Wales, and there are [illegible] During the year 1895 good stone was found [illegible] feet, and as the lower levels are reached the patches of [illegible]

r to improve in quality and to become more regular and frequent. lock 7 a patch of stone was found which realised over £5,000. It ficult to state with exactitude the value of the production, but it ieved that stone to the value of £23,000 was sold during the three ended 1895, while the industry has made such great strides during st four years that in 1896 the production is estimated at £45,000; 897, at £75,000; in 1898, at £80,000, and in 1899, at £135,000. quality of the stone found on the fields varies considerably, some realising 10s per oz, whilst the best quality occasionally realises ch as £42 per oz. The best market for the gems is Germany, e they find a ready sale, but it is stated that the principal gem hants of Europe have now agents on the field for the purchase of stone.

Queensland the opal is found in the Cretaceous areas in the far and south west, from a few feet to 40 feet below the surface, its extraction affords employment to a large number of men, who, ver, in the majority of cases only follow the industry in the time n from other occupations. It is difficult to accurately estimate production from the opal fields of the colony, but in 1899 it was set at £9,000. Valuable opal has been discovered at Tairua, in the aki district of the North Island of New Zealand; and also in the nt Peel and Auckland districts, in Canterbury. There is, however, cord of any production during the last few years.

her gem-stones, including the sapphire, emerald, oriental emerald, opal, amethyst, garnet, chrysolite, topaz, cairngorm, onyx, zircon, have been found in the gold and tin-bearing drifts and river ls in numerous localities throughout the colonies. The Emerald mining Company, in the Emmaville district, in the Glen Innes ct, New South Wales, have sunk two shafts, 100 feet and 50 feet tively, and 25,000 carats have been won in a rough state. Their when cut and finished, if of the best quality, is about £2 per Owing to the difficulties of extraction, and the low price of the in the London market, the mines were closed for three years. In they were again opened up, and, although worked for some time ng 1898, they are now closed, the company having obtained a sion of the labour conditions. No gems were produced during year.

e sapphire is found in all the colonies, but most abundantly in the bourhood of Beechworth, Victoria. The oriental topaz has been d in New South Wales. Oriental amethysts also have been found nt colony, and the ruby has been found in Queensland, as well as w South Wales.

ording to an authority on the subject of gemstones, rubies, tal amethysts, emeralds, and topaz have been chiefly obtained from ial deposits, but have rarely been met with in a matrix from which uld pay to extract them.

Turquoises have been found near Wangaratta, in Victoria, and m for these gems is being carried on in the locality.

Chrysoberyls have been found in New South Wales; spinel ruoi New South Wales and Victoria: white topaz, in all the colonies; yellow topaz, in Tasmania. Chalcedony, carnelian, onyx, and cat are found in New South Wales; and it is probable that they are to be met with in the other colonies, particularly in Queensland Zi tourmaline, garnet, and other gemstones of little commercial value found throughout Australasia.

In South Australia some very fine specimens of garnet were fo causing some excitement at the time, as the gems were mistaken rubies. The stones were submitted to the examination of exp whose reports disclosed the true nature of the gems, and dispelled hopes of those who had invested in the supposed ruby mines of S Australia.

Production of Minerals.

The foregoing pages show that Australasia possesses unsurp mineral resources, and although enormous quantities of minerals of kinds have been won since their first discovery, yet the deposits, the exception perhaps of gold, have only reached the first period their exploitation. Vast beds of silver, tin, and copper ore, and fi are known to exist, but their development has not reached a sufficie advanced stage to enable an exact opinion to be expressed regard their commercial value, though it is confidently held by mining exp that this must be enormous. The mineral production of the va colonies in 1899 will be found below:—

State.	Total Value.	Proportion of each State.	Average value per head
	£	per cent.	£ s. d.
New South Wales	6,080,516	24·5	4 10 5
Victoria . .	3,579,322	14·4	3 1 7
Queensland . .	3,139,620	12·6	6 11 8
South Australia	516,479	2·1	1 8 1
Western Australia	6,346,581	25·5	37 8 6
Tasmania	2,538,737	10·2	14 2 6
Commonwealth .	22,201,255	89·3	6 0 0
New Zealand .	2,656,554	10·7	3 10 10
Australasia .	24,857,809	100·0	5 11 8

The total value of minerals raised in 1899 exceeded by £12,951, the average annual amount since 1852. The search for gold has le the expansion of the mining industry in other directions, and, alth seekers of gold have become fewer, the number of miners engaged in extraction of other minerals has largely increased, and it is a que

ver the total number of persons who gain their livelihood by mining its at the present time is not equal to the number so engaged when ld coal alone were the elements of the mineral production of the alasian colonies. The resources known to exist and to be developed se colonies are likely to maintain for many generations to come a and prosperous mining population.

e following table shows the value of the mineral production of each y during the four years 1871, 1881, 1891 and 1899, as well as the per inhabitant for the whole of Australasia:—

State.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1899
	£	£	£	
South Wales	1,650,000	2,121,000	6,396,000	6,081,000
oria	5,400,000	3,467,000	2,339,000	3,579,000
aland	806,000	3,165,000	2,300,000	3,140 000
h Australia	725,000	421,000	306,000	516,000
ern Australia	5,000	11,000	130,000	6,346,000
ania	25,000	604,000	516,000	2,539,000
ommonwealth	8,611,000	9,789,000	12,047,000	22,201,000
Zealand	3,100,000	1,528,000	1,841,000	2,657,000
Total	11,711,000	11,317,000	13,888,000	24,858,000
Per head	£ s. d. 6 1 0	£ s. d. 4 1 6	£ s. d. 3 12 3	£ s. d. 5 11 8

e foregoing table shows that the mineral production of 1899 was y eleven millions more than that of 1891. There were increases the colonies with the exception of New South Wales, in which y a decrease of slightly over £300,000 has to be recorded, chiefly g to the fall in the value of silver, and, to a less extent, to the e in the price of coal. The most notable increases were in tern Australia and Tasmania, the production of the former colony ded that of 1891 by over £6,200,000, mainly on account of the great ase in the gold yield, which advanced in value from £115,182 to 16,733 during the period under review. The large increase in the manian production was due to the output of the Mount Lyell Copper-s. In the other colonies, the increases were also substantial, ing from 36 per cent. in South Australia to 55 pe. cent. in oria.

mparing the value of the mineral production in 1899 with the popula the largest share is taken by Western Australia, with £67 8s. 6d. inhabitant. Tasmania ranks second, with £14 2s. 6d. per in ant; Queensland third, with £6 11s. 8d.; New South Wales h, with £4 10s. 5d.; and New Zealand fifth, with £3 10s 10d oria follows with an average of £3 1s. 7d. per head, and in South alia the production per inhabitant was only £1 8s. 1d. The

EMPLOYMENT AND PRODUCTION.

O obtain a fair approximation of the number of persons engaged in the various walks of life in Australasia was impossible before ensus of 1891 was taken, for although at the Census enumerations 81 and previous years the occupations of the people were made a re of the inquiry, the classification, which followed closely that ally devised by the late Dr Farr, was unsatisfactory, as it com- y failed to distinguish between producers and distributors. To a repetition of this defect the Census Conference, held at Hobart rch, 1890, abandoned the English system and adopted a scheme ssification more in accordance with sound principles. This classi- on was reviewed at the conference of Statisticians held in Sydney bruary, 1900, and was adopted, with very slight modification, for t the decennial Census of 1901. Under this classification the ation is divided into two great sections—bread-winners and dents; and the bread-winners are arranged in their natural s of producers and distributors, with their various orders and sses. The classes may be shortly defined as follow:—

Section A.—Breadwinners.

Class 1. Professional.

Class 2. Domestic.

Class 3. Commercial.

Class 4. Transport and Communication.

Class 5. Industrial.

Class 6. Agricultural, Pastoral, Mineral, and other Primary Producers.

Class 7. Indefinite.

Section B.—Dependents: Non-Breadwinners.

Class 8. Dependants.

abulation of the occupations of the people of these colonies in cording to the foregoing classification would hardly be of value present time, especially as another census will have been taken this volume is twelve months old, but a proportional division of

[illegible] breadwinners and dependents as at the ce[illegible] [illegible] and is therefore given hereunder:

[illegible]	Proportion of Breadwinners.		Proportion of Dependents.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
[illegible]	63·13	17·36	36·87	82·64
[illegible]	65·42	21·15	34·58	78·8[illegible]
[illegible]	65·84	18·66	34·16	81·34
[illegible]	62·42	15·97	37·58	84·03
[illegible]	72·47	15·28	27·53	84·72
[illegible]	63·04	18·15	36·96	81·85
[illegible]	62·11	14·86	37·89	85·14
[illegible]	64·01	18·12	35·99	81·88

[illegible] proportion of breadwinners be made w[illegible] [illegible] ages given in the table on page [illegible] [illegible] Western Australia, with the [illegible] [illegible] per cent., natural[illegible] [illegible] the leading posi[illegible] [illegible] for by the [illegible] [illegible] with 65·22 per cent. [illegible] [illegible] breadwinners, Victoria [illegible] [illegible] and New [illegible] [illegible] Tasmania, South Australia, and [illegible] [illegible] ages, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] in excess of the [illegible] [illegible] course, due [illegible] [illegible] activity of [illegible] [illegible] Tasmania where [illegible] [illegible] ages was to be found. [illegible] [illegible] extent of only [illegible] [illegible] of the old ages, and, [illegible] [illegible] of dependent [illegible] [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] of this volume [illegible] [illegible] The manufac[illegible] [illegible]

Manufactories.

The progress of the manufacturing industry in Australasia has been w and fitful, even in the most advanced colonies; and although the ular statement given below shows an increase of 76,340 hands since 85, about one-tenth of this number has been added by a change in the ulation of the statistics in Victoria and New South Wales. The ulation of the continent is not sufficient to maintain industries anything like an extensive scale, and even the Australasian field, h as it is, has been still further limited by the intercolonial iffs.

The greater portion of the manufactories of Australasia may be classi- d as domestic industries—that is to say, industries naturally arising m the circumstances of the population, or connected with the treat- nt of perishable products, but there are nevertheless a fair number industries of a more complex character which have been firmly estab- ed. A statement of the number of establishments and of the hands ployed in Australasia is given below for the years 1885, 1890, 1896, 1899. In some of the colonies the manufacturing statistics are mplete, and it has therefore been necessary to estimate the figures everal cases:—

Year.	Establishments.	Hands employed.
	No.	No.
1885	10,573	127,360
1890 .	11,157	158,780
1896	11,055	164,840
1899 . .	12,200	201,100

Manufactories of Victoria.

Victoria was the colony which first displayed activity in the manu- turing industries. In 1885 there were employed in factories, properly alled, 49,297 hands, and in 1889 there were 57,432 hands; but number fell away to 39,473 in 1893. Since that year there has n an increase, shown in the following table as 20,597, but in reality mute so great in consequence of an extension in the scope of the ns. Of the 60,070 workers employed in 1899, 4,184 may be said

Manufactories of New South Wales.

...turing industries of New South Wales do not cover so ... as those of Victoria, nor do they afford employment for ...sons. For the year 1899 the two colonies compare as

State.	Establishments.	Hands employed.		Total.
		Males.	Females.	
...toria	3,027	44,041	16,029	60,070
...ew South Wales ...	2,912	47,063	8,583	55,646

...Victoria, therefore, there were employed 7,446 females more than ...w South Wales, and 3,022 fewer males. In New South Wales ...ear 1891 showed a total of 46,135 hands, viz., 41,582 males and ... females, but these figures had declined in 1893 to 36,412 males ...,506 females, or a total of 38,918. However, that was the lowest ... reached in the manufacturing returns of the colony, for thence- ... there was an improvement every year until 1899, when, as will be ...from the appended statement, the hands numbered 55,646. But ...896, it must be explained, a change was made in the scope of ...eturns, and this accounted for an addition of 4,899 to the total ...er of workers. The actual increase in the course of the six ...ars, therefore, about 11,800 hands:

Year	Establishments.	Males.	Females.	Total Hands employed
1885	3,419	36,390	2,404	38,794
1886	3,541	38,257	3,420	41,077
1887	3,541	40,160	3,367	43,527
1888	3,349	39 365	3,686	43,051
1889	3,106	41,299	4,265	45,564
1890	2,926	40,725	4,264	44,989
1891	2,583	41,582	4,553	46,135
1892	2,246	41,298	2,970	44,268
1893	2,052	36,412	2,506	38,918
1894	2,595	39,029	3,222	42,751
1895	2,302	39,987	3,846	43,833
	2,928	42,908	6,932	49 840
	2 820	44,333	7,106	51 439
	2,839	44,073	7,845	52,.18
	2,912	47,063	8,583	55,646

Of the 55,646 workers employed in 1899, 22,522 found employr in connection with industries the products from which come competition with imported goods—3,633 were engaged in dom industries for the treatment of perishable produce required immediate use, and 29,491 in other industries called into exist by the natural resources of the colony.

The number of factories and industrial establishments of various s with the number of hands employed in each class during 1899, wa follows :—

Number of Hands employed by each Establishment.	Number of Establishments.	Total number of Hands.
Under 4 hands	396	1,381
4 hands	352	1,408
5 to 10 hands	1,080	7,723
11 to 20 ,,	529	7,775
21 to 50 ,,	352	10,864
51 to 100 ,,	116	8,093
101 hands and upwards	87	18,402
Total	2,912	55,646

Manufactories of Other Colonies.

In Queensland systematic statistics relating to manufactories h only been taken since 1892. The figures for the last eight years ar follow :—

Year.	Establishments.	Total Hands employed.
1892	1,329	13,369
1893	1,391	14,434
1894	1,323	15,224
1895	1,397	18,728
1896	1,332	19,733
1897	1,682	22,160
1898	1,864	24,170
1899	2,172	27,200

...ha returns were obtained from manufactures in 1892, ...ng three years no information was obtained: since ... returns have been collected annually. The follow... ...ble figures:—

	Establishments.	Males.	Females.	Total Hands employed.
...2	815	9,642	1,847	11,489
...6	767	10,974	1,811	12,785
...7	768	10,930	2,027	12,957
...8	766	12,296	2,085	14,381
1899	841	12,941	2,214	15,155

...stern Australia, the manufacturing industry has advanced very ... in importance, and as regards the number of hands employed is ...most on a par with South Australia. The following are the ...ns for the last three years:

Year.	Establishments.	Males.	Females.	Total Hands employed.
1897	413	8,683	408	9,091
1898	485	8,521	613	9,134
1899	476	8,641	766	9,407

...mania has several long-established industries, but the employment ...d has been very limited. The opening up of the mines in the west ...f the island promises to have an important effect upon the local ...ies, the beginnings of which are even now visible. Commencing ...1886, when the returns relating to manufactories were first ...ed the number of establishments and of hands employed therein ...follows:—

Year.	Establishments.	Males.	Females.	Total Hands employed.
1886	271	2,030	77	2,107
1887	240	1,968	74	2,042
1888	250	2,015	50	2,065
1889	232	2,144	35	2,179
1890	237	2,147	57	2,204
1891	215	2,019	33	2,052
1892	205	1,641	52	1,693
1893	204	1,407	20	1,427
1894	201	1,546	34	1,580
1895	211	1,713	41	1,754
1896	215	2,110	34	2,144
1897	290	3,272	206	3,478
1898	288	3,438	191	3,629

In New Zealand information regarding the manufacturing industry is obtained only at the quinquennial census. In 1886 there were 1,946 establishments, employing 22,095 persons; in 1891 the establishments numbered 2,254, and the hands 25,633; and in 1896 there were 2,440 establishments, employing 27,336 persons.

Classes of Industry.

The information in regard to industrial establishments is not given by the various statistical departments in precisely the same form, and any summary of the various industries must be looked upon as more or less approximate. The following classification follows the lines adopted in several of the colonies:—

Class of Industry.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
	1899.	1899.	1899.	1899.	1899.	1898.	1896.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Treating raw material, the product of pastoral pursuits	[illegible],600	1,942	1,502	400	22	133	1,755
Connected with food and drink or the preparation thereof	9,356	9,557	9,023	1,990	1,008	641	5,176
Clothing and textile fabrics	19,984	17,728	3,795	2,927	1,147	473	6,790
Building materials	6,277	5,131	3,214	1,198	3,017	987	4,674
Metal works, machinery, &c.	11,901	9,423	4,013	5,029	1,745	516	2,623
Ship-building, repairing, &c.	1,499	168	183	81	27	....	281
Furniture, bedding, &c.	1,701	1,440	576	52	100	....	576
Books, paper, printing, &c.	5,054	5,168	2,108	389	782	547	2,531
Vehicles, saddlery and harness	1,050	2,312	1,445	541	409	300	1,057
Light, fuel, and heat	987	895	307	65	140	40	42
Miscellaneous	4,247	6,300	1,034	1,303	853	192	1,443
Total	55,646	60,070	27,200	15,155	9,407	3,629	27,336

The information in regard to Tasmania is manifestly incomplete, as it is not to be supposed there are no persons employed in the two groups of industries opposite which no figures appear; the Tasmanian returns appear to be confined to certain leading employments, and if the minor industries had been included it is probable the gross number

of hands employed would have shown a total of 6,000 However, in the absence of complete returns, the published figures only can be dealt with. Turning now to the details of the various classes of industry, interesting features are disclosed. The hands employed in the industries treating raw material, the product of pastoral pursuits, arranged according to the principal groups, were as follow :—

Class of Industry.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
Boiling-down and Tallow Refineries	124	88	733	21	.	. .	77
Bone Mills, Manures, &c.	68	128	45	4			46
Glue, Oil, and Grease ...	154	33	.	20		.	3
Tanneries and Fellmongeries	1,014	1,093	724	202	22	135	1 029
Wool-scouring	1,330			98	.	. .	
Total . .	2,690	1,942	1,502	400	22	133	1,755

It is difficult to say if the figures are compiled for all the provinces upon the same basis. In New South Wales and Victoria wool-scouring works on sheep stations are not included, as the hands are employed in such works at most during the shearing season, and frequently for only a few weeks. The number of hands employed in treating raw material, the product of the pastoral industries, varies greatly from year to year, and, owing to the decrease in the number of live stock depastured, is much less than formerly.

The industries connected with food and drink afford employment for a large number of hands, the distribution into detailed groups being as shown in the succeeding table The figures for the most part afford their own explanation. Included under the head of cornflour, oatmeal, and arrowroot are, in the case of Victoria, a small number of hands making macaroni and some starch makers ; these last are few in number, and it was not found possible to exclude them from the persons employed in making farinaceous foods, otherwise they could have been classed elsewhere. It has been necessary, owing to an arrangement made between the statistical offices of New South Wales and Victoria, that factories dealing with milk products should be included in the list of manufactories, although they are not properly classed as manufactories, and the subject of dairying is treated at length in another part of this volume. It has also been found necessary to alter the Queensland figures from the published returns of that colony, as the farm workers and

grouping of industries under the heading preparation and manu-
e of building materials is attended with some difficulty, especially
an attempt is made to give detailed information. There appears
only one establishment in Australasia preparing crude asphalt for
rial purposes, this establishment is at Sydney. There are many
ed asphalt works, that is, works preparing coal tar, sand and
ings for pavement purposes, but these have been excluded from
turns. The hands employed making earthenware and pottery
given for three provinces New South Wales, 417 : Queensland,
nd South Australia 95. For the other provinces these industries
cluded with brickmaking, and have been so grouped in the accom-
ng table. In distinguishing in the table between sawmills and
y works the Statistical Registers of the various provinces have
ollowed ; nevertheless, it is clear that some joiners are included
awmill hands in New South Wales, and all such hands are included
awmills in New Zealand, so that neither grouping affords a fair
rison for all the colonies. Under the heading of stone-dressing,
ing, modelling and monumental works, the chief employment in
colonies is the preparation of tombstones an industry which
well be omitted from a tabulation of manufactures and works.

ss of Industry.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
	42						
ottery, earthenware.	1,866	1,312	412	340	220	204	455
	735	1,030	583	401	582		
ster, and cement	125	210	100	51			79
d varnishes	16	47		5	8		
	3,404	1,467	2,008	281	2,799	783	4,050
ssing, polishing, ng and monumental							
	451	338	87	64	18		
oing and carving	30	112	18	13			81
otal .. .	6,277	5,131	3,214	1,108	3,617	987	4,674

ks connected with the treatment of metals, manufacture of
ery, agricultural implements, and railway rolling stock form a
nd growing class of industry. The grouping given below is not
means satisfactory. In Queensland for example all metal works,
smelting, are grouped in the one line, which is also the case in
of the other colonies. Only three colonies show hands employed
manufacture and repairs of rolling stock ; this, of course, is mis-
g, for though little manufacturing may be carried on, all colonies
their own repairs. In Victoria 1,697 hands are shown as
ed in railway carriage and rolling stock manufacture and repairs
pared with 2,908 in New South Wales. The employment
d in railway workshops is chiefly in the nature of repairs, but
tives, passenger carriages, and goods waggons are built in each

2,405 in the latter.
Wales are situated at Ne
close proximity to the coal
treated are copper, tin,
mony itself, and partly of
Queensland, and New
Australia are situated at Port
Broken Hill.

		South Aus-tralia.	Western Aus-tralia.	Ta-mania
		242	38	
			....	
			....	
			753	
			924	
			1,745	

repairing, N
red than has
connection
and work. In
250 hands e

			Western Aus-	Tas-

The manufacture of furniture, bedding, &c., affords employment to 4,491 hands, of whom 1,701 are in New South Wales and 1,446 in Victoria. As Australia and New Zealand produce various kinds of wood admirably adapted to the requirements of the furniture trades, it can hardly be said that the industry has attained a development equal to its opportunities. As showing the possibilities of the industry, it may be mentioned that the value of furniture imported into New South Wales alone in 1899 was £101,400, and of bedding flock, and upholstery, £47,800.

Class of Industry	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Bedding, flock, upholstery	410	407	165				25
Furniture ..	1,180	940	411	..	109	..	506
Picture frames	71	59		28		..	..
Window blinds	34	40		4			45
Total ..	1,701	1,446	576	92	109		576

The different industries connected with printing, bookbinding, paper-making, &c., afford work to 17,169 persons. The great bulk of these are employed in the various processes of printing, actual manufacturers being comparatively few in number. Australia and New Zealand produce many excellent paper-making materials: nevertheless, only 319 persons are employed in paper-making, and a large proportion of the output of the mills is ordinary brown or wrapping papers. Under the head of printing are included the composing and mechanical staff of the newspaper offices—persons whom it takes a very wide definition to bring in under the term "manufacturers."

Class of Industry	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Electrotyping and stereotyping	24	..	..	..	..		..
Paper bags, boxes, &c.	191		71	..			56
Paper	56	170					84
Printing and bookbinding	4,714	4,977	2,037	989	782	647	2,351
Printing materials	69	72					
Total	5,054	5,168	2,108	989	782	647	2,521

In connection with the manufacture and repair of vehicles, saddlery, harness, &c., there are 8,031 hands employed. The great bulk of the work done in connection with coaches and waggons is repairing, but there are establishments in all the provinces where vehicles of all classes are manufactured. No hands are set down in the statistics of Tasmania as employed in these industries. It is probable there must be at least 300 so employed, and this figure appears in the following table:—

Class of Industry	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Coaches and waggons	1,472	1,817	670	384	336	250	[illegible]
Saddlery, harness, whips, &c.	461	495	775	157	70	[illegible]	[illegible]
Spokes	17	.					
Total	1,950	2,312	1,445	541	406	[illegible]	1,077

Industries connected with the production of fuel, heat, and light do not afford employment to many hands. The following table shows 2,854 hands, of whom 1,947 are employed in gasworks, 467 in electric-lighting works, 253 in coke making, and 187 in manufacturing matches. The coke workers in Victoria are included with hands employed in gas-works, and coke workers and hands employed in electric-lighting are grouped together in Queensland. The number of hands employed in manufacturing candles is not included in the following table. The soap and candle industries are usually worked together, so that it is not possible to separate the two classes, which are accordingly grouped together under the heading of soap and candle workers, on the next page.

Industry	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Coke	253		87				
Electric light	147	147			86		
Gas	587	686	[illegible]	65	54	40	[illegible]
Matches		62			..		[illegible]
Total	987	895	407	65	140	40	[illegible]

Under the heading of miscellaneous are grouped a very large number of manufactures, many of them small, but some of them of considerable importance; amongst the latter may be mentioned—tobacco manufactories, employing 2,212 hands; chaff-cutting and corn-crushing, 1,510 hands; chemical, drug, and patent medicine factories, 1,206 hands;

orks, 1,047 hands; rope-works, 841 hands; and soap and candle 1,435 hands. Further particulars regarding these and the other es included in the list will be found in the Statistical Registers various provinces.

of Industry.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
d wickerware, mats	89	34	57	84		.	76
	6	188		107	22	.	125
packing cases	155	203	. ..	84			.
d brushes ..	113	236	36	.		.	92
d sausage-skins .	10						50
ng and corn-crush	256	886	...	150		.	212
drugs, and patent	270	618	.	130	23	.	105
	210	124	168	26	8		76
	8	41	. .		..		6
	35	54	.	14	.		59
ting .	43	. .	....			.	6
ker	89	84	. ..		.		. .
ubing bottles)	230	646	. .	40			6
mental) . .	110		..	5	.		1
.. .	7	. .	.	.			2
manufacturing) ..	71	470	....	65	31		. .
. ..	57	18	. ..	.			. .
ors	27	14	. ..	..	.	.	..
ving	30	....	...	...	.		. ..
ax	81	40	33	..	.. .		13
g-lines, and twine	150	449	39	53			150
ls	12	.					4
ndries .	287	438	179	189	60	86	190
d other scientific ents	58	19	.	. ..			.
ars, and cigarettes	649	1,041	250	106	57		13
ries	194	637	272	184	140	106	186
Total .. .	3,247	6,300	1,034	1,303	353	192	1,443

erials and labour employed during the processes of manufacture or stment. Taking the added value as the difference between the l output and the materials and fuel consumed, the distribution of amount (£33,316,000) between the various States was as follows:—

State.	Value of Production.	Value per Inhabitant.
	£	£ s. d.
New South Wales	9,207,000	6 16 10
Victoria	10,052,000	8 13 0
Queensland	4,772,000	10 0 1
South Australia	2,655,000	7 4 4
Western Australia	1,515,000	8 18 8
Tasmania	465,000	2 11 9
Commonwealth	28,666,000	7 14 10
New Zealand	4,650,000	6 4 0
Australasia	33,316,000	7 9 8

n the last edition of this work the total value of the production of torian manufactories for 1896 was set down at £11,318,000. This re was deduced from the results of the census of 1891, which ed a gross production of £22,390,251, less value of materials used ,906,233 – that is to say, £10,384,018. There were, however, several ortant considerations overlooked which have now been attended to. Victorian official figures did not include the important item of fuel aterial used, and a probable deduction of £520,000 should have been e on this score; in the materials used no allowance was made for value of Victorian timber cut in sawmills, which appears to have n worth £608,759, nor for the raw material used up by potteries brickyards. There were other corrections to be made, such as the usion of the value of milk products which appear under the head dairy farming. In the foregoing table proper allowances have been e, and the figures relating to each colony have been compiled on tly the same basis. The table just given shows that, in proportion population, Queensland holds the first place, a circumstance due he existence of important sugar and meat preserving industries in colony. Western Australia stands second, but the dearness of ducts, caused by the remoteness of the colony and the heavy cost of sport, gives to Western Australia a fictitious importance compared h the other provinces: but when every allowance is made on this nt will be found that the industries of the colony are on a sub- ntial basis. Victoria ranks first as regards gross value of products, d when viewed from the standpoint of population, the gross uction exceeding that of New South Wales by about £850,000, and production per head by £1 16s. 2d.

Value of Production of all Industries.

Full particulars regarding the value of primary production have already been given in previous chapters; combining the results there shown with the value of manufactures, the total value of production during the year 1899 was £137,570,000, of which amount the total of each colony and the value per inhabitant were as follows:—

State.	Value of Production.	Value per Inhabitant.
	£	£ s. d.
New South Wales	38,579,000	28 13 7
Victoria	30,870,000	26 11 4
Queensland	18,561,000	38 18 4
South Australia	8,958,000	24 6 11
Western Australia	10,215,000	60 4 10
Tasmania	5,090,000	28 6 4
Commonwealth	112,273,000	30 6 8
New Zealand	25,297,000	33 14 7
Australasia	137,570,000	30 18 0

The distribution of the production of the colonies under the various branches of primary and other productive industries was as follows:—

State.	Agriculture.	Pastoral Industries.	Dairying, Poultry, and Bee Farming.	Mining Industries.	Forestry and Fisheries.	Manufactories.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	5,582,000	14,627,000	2,543,000	6,081,000	633,000	[illegible]
Victoria	6,437,000	7,215,000	3,[illegible]84,000	1,579,000	2[illegible]1,000	[illegible]
Queensland	1,848,000	7,2[illegible],000	8[illegible],000	3,1[illegible],000	429,000	[illegible]
South Australia	2,568,000	2,503,000	67[illegible],000	[illegible],000	45,000	2,6[illegible]
Western Australia	[illegible]	869,000	251,000	[illegible]	734,000	1,[illegible]
Tasmania	996,000	687,000	28[illegible],000	2,[illegible],000	118,000	46,[illegible]
Commonwealth	17,929,000	33,088,000	8,022,000	2[illegible],201,000	2,360,000	28,[illegible]
New Zealand	7,[illegible]18,000	7,707,000	2,354,000	[illegible],000*	61[illegible],000	4,[illegible]
Australasia	25,247,000	40,795,000	10,377,000	24,858,000	2,977,000	33,316,000

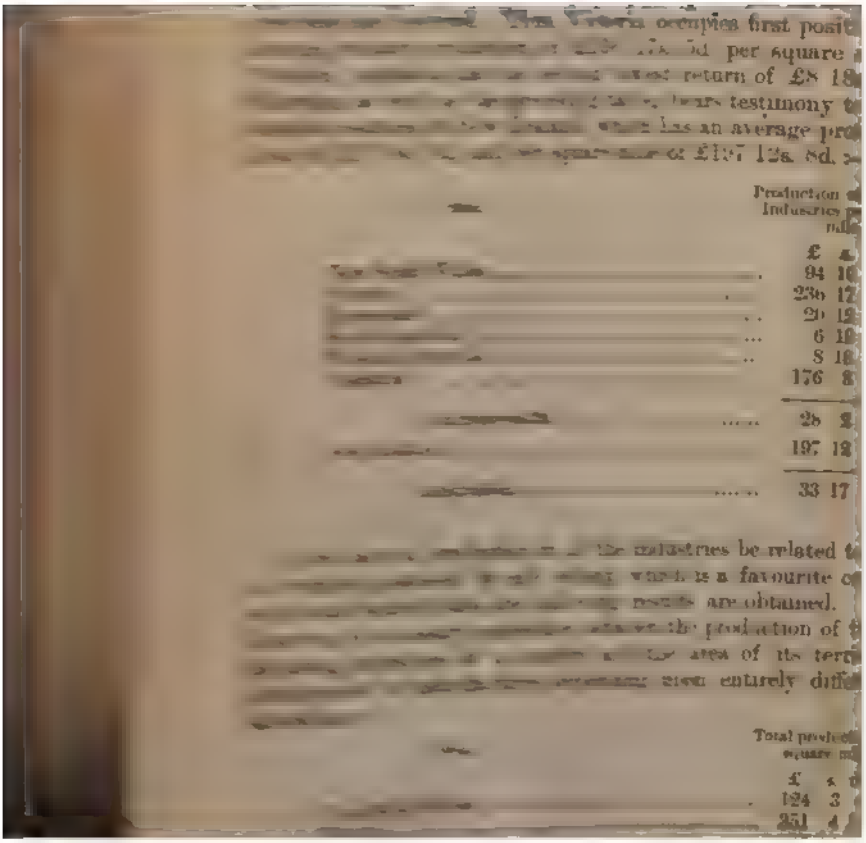
* Kauri gum production included hereunder.

Compared with the older countries of the world, the amounts stated above are by no means insignificant, and in production per head Australasia exceeds any other country for which records are available. Although the data on which an exact statement can be founded are incomplete, there is sufficient information to warrant the assertion that from primary industries alone Australasia produces more per inhabitant than is produced from the combined industries of any other country, and

a consideration of this fact will perhaps explain the ease with which these colonies bear their apparently great indebtedness, and the general prosperity they enjoyed until the disturbances incident to the banking crisis unsettled general business. The following figures, giving the value of production from primary industries in the principal countries of the world, are, with the exception of those for the Australasian colonies, taken from Mulhall's *Dictionary of Statistics* :—

Country	Total Production in Primary Industries.	Per head of Population		
	£	£	s.	d.
United Kingdom	317,000,000	7	18	6
France	451,000,000	11	11	6
Germany	465,000,000	8	13	4
Russia	504,000,000	4	19	8
Austria	347,000,000	8	7	11
Italy	212,000,000	6	17	1
Spain	113,000,000	8	4	3
Portugal	28,000,000	5	10	2
Sweden	50,000,000	10	1	11
Norway	15,000,000	7	6	2
Denmark	36,000,000	10	4	0
Holland	37,000,000	7	17	5
Belgium	55,000,000	8	16	6
Switzerland	21,000,000	7	2	1
United States	1,037,000,000	14	14	0
Canada	83,000,000	16	5	6
Australasia (1899)	104,254,000	23	8	4
New South Wales	29,372,000	21	16	9
Victoria	20,818,000	17	18	4
Queensland	13,789,000	28	18	3
South Australia	6,303,000	17	2	7
Western Australia	8,700,000	51	6	2
Tasmania	4,625,000	25	14	7
New Zealand	20,647,000	27	10	7

Judged by the aggregate production, New South Wales stands far above the other colonies, a position which it owes to the largeness of its interests in pastoral pursuits. The value of the return from this industry was £14,527,000, a sum greater than the total production from all primary industries in every colony except Victoria and New Zealand. In value of primary production per inhabitant, Western Australia stands easily first with the very high production of £51 6s. 2d. per head. Queensland comes next, closely followed by New Zealand and Tasmania, while South Australia is lowest with only one-third of the production per head of Western Australia. The high position occupied by Western Australia is due to its great production of gold, and to its large timber industries. Queensland owes its position to its pastoral resources, the production from which reached £15 5s. per inhabitant.



[illegible] occupies first posit[illegible] per square [illegible] return of £8 18[illegible] bears testimony t[illegible] has an average pro[illegible] of £197 12s. 8d. [illegible]

[illegible]	Production of Industries p[illegible] mile	
	£	s.
[illegible]	94	10
[illegible]	236	17
[illegible]	20	12
[illegible]	6	19
[illegible]	8	18
[illegible]	176	8
[illegible]	28	2
[illegible]	197	12
[illegible]	33	17

[illegible] the industries be related t[illegible] which is a favourite c[illegible] results are obtained. [illegible] the production of [illegible] area of its terr[illegible] upon entirely diffe[illegible]

[illegible]	Total produc[illegible] square mi[illegible]	
	£	s.
[illegible]	124	3
[illegible]	351	4

A comparison of the value of production in 1899 with that of previous years brings out the fact that in spite of many adverse conditions these colonies are holding their own. In 1899 the value per head was £30 18s., which was greater than in 1891 or than in 1871, and only a few shillings below the average of 1881. This is an excellent result considering the continuous fall in prices from 1871 to 1894. If the prices of 1871 had been maintained, the following results would have been obtained, which for purposes of comparison are set against the actual results:—

Year	Average value of production per inhabitant.	Average value of production if 1871 prices had been obtained in each year
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1871	28 7 0	28 7 0
1881	31 0 7	37 3 10
1891	30 3 3	45 2 10
1899	30 18 0	45 0 2

During the interval of eight years between 1891 and 1899 the sheep depastured in Australasia declined in number from 125 millions to 94 millions, while there was also a large decrease in other classes of stock, and the satisfactory results shown in this and the succeeding table were achieved in spite of the shrinkage in the return from the leading industry. The total value of production for each of the years named was as follows:

State.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1899.
	£	£	£	£
New South Wales..	15,379,000	25,180,000	36,739,760	38,579,000
Victoria .. .	19,260,000	22,750,000	30,319,610	30,870,000
Queensland	3,995,000	10,200,000	14 273 660	18,561,000
South Australia ..	5,228,000	8,457,000	9,025,675	8,958,000
Western Australia.	707,000	943,000	1,806 340	10,215,000
Tasmania	2,131,000	3,586,000	3,920,940	5,000,000
Commonwealth ...	46,700,000	71,116,000	96,085,985	112,273,000
New Zealand	9,739,000	16,490,000	21,518,915	25,297,000
Australasia ...	56,439,000	87,606,000	117,604,900	137,570,000

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

Municipal Institutions.

ONLY of recent years has the question of Local Government rec[illegible] the attention which its importance demands, the only Stat[illegible] the Commonwealth that have adopted general systems being Vic[illegible] Queensland, South Australia, and Tasmania. New Zealand, how[illegible] has also for a number of years been divided into districts, with [illegible] governing powers. It will be noted, from the information given i[illegible] following pages, that the Acts controlling Local Government vary [illegible] [illegible], especially as regards the election of representatives and pr[illegible] [illegible], method of valuation, and rating powers; and the partic[illegible] available in regard to each State are not sufficiently exhaustiv[illegible] [illegible] the making of any effective comparison between the system[illegible] the different colonies.

The first portion of this chapter is devoted to an account of the [illegible] [illegible] under the various Municipal Acts, while the par[illegible] [illegible] to Boards and Trusts, for the establishment and contr[illegible] which special Acts have in most cases been passed, will be found in [illegible] second part.

New South Wales.

The first Act providing for the establishment of a Local Counc[illegible] this State was passed in 1842, when the City of Sydney was incorpora[illegible] In 1867 the Municipalities Act became law, but as that Act [illegible] [illegible] for any district to become constituted as a municipality, [illegible] a small proportion of the area of the Colony is incorporated.

Under the provisions of the original Acts, the aldermen were elec[illegible] by the ratepayers (except in the City of Sydney, where both owners [illegible] [illegible] voted), and the mayors were chosen by the aldermen. [illegible] [illegible] enacted in 1900 the franchise has been extended to tenan[illegible] [illegible].

The legislation of 1900 consists of two important measures, [illegible] [illegible] Corporation Amending Act and the Municipalities Ame[illegible] [illegible]. Under the provisions of the first mentioned Act, the C[illegible] [illegible] is divided into twelve wards, each returning two alderm[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] wards, each represented by three aldermen, [illegible] [illegible]. The mayor is still to be elected by the aldermen, as t[illegible] [illegible] for his election by the citizens was not carri[illegible] [illegible] are those providing (1) for the abolit[illegible] [illegible] by citizens, with the substitution of Governme[illegible] [illegible] and (2) for the resumption of land [illegible] [illegible] of streets or public places. The rating pow[illegible]

not been altered, the general rate remaining at not more than 2s. £ of the annual value, but lighting and other special rates may e imposed, if necessary.

Municipalities Act of 1867 provided that the general rate not exceed 1s. in the £ of the annual value, but that special could be levied, so long as the general and special rates together t come to more than 2s. in the £. A further charge, limited to the £, could be made for street watering, and an additional r water supply, where necessary, the amount not to exceed 1s. in The amending Bill of 1900 proposes to give power to the lls to increase the general rate to as much as 2s. 6d. in the £ of nual value if necessary, but the special rates still remain as in the original Act. A most important alteration in the prin- of municipal taxation is the authority to be conferred on the palities to levy their rates on the unimproved capital value of nd instead of on the annual value of all property, provided the yers agree to the alteration by a special vote. The assessment unimproved value must not exceed 2d. in the £ of the assessed value.

South Wales, as already indicated, is the most backward in to local government. The principle of self-government is on es recognised as a sound one, and various measures to secure its ation have from time to time been placed before Parliament, but the Legislature has not succeeded in giving effect to the manifest of the constituencies. The total area incorporated at the close municipal year 1898–9 was only 2,761 square miles, so that it seen that a large area still remains under the control of the government in New South Wales; but for this some justification in the largeness of the territory and the sparseness of the popula- iding in the unincorporated areas. The total area still unincor- d in New South Wales amounts to 307,939 square miles.

total capital value of all property in municipalities is returned as 13,800, and the annual value as £7,412,100, so that the annual from property was about 6·11 per cent.

annual and capital values of Sydney and suburbs since 1891 are below :—

Sydney and Suburbs.		Year.	Sydney and Suburbs.	
Annual Value.	Capital Value.		Annual Value.	Capital Value.
£	£		£	£
5,851,589	99,224,810	1896	5,141,990	91,427,100
6,013,607	106,891,100	1897	5,022,010	88,464,400
6,067,882	110,061,000	1898	4,965,400	86,927,600
5,686,197	108,951,000	1899	4,995,210	87,464,000
5,352,920	96,692,200			

[illegible] were
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[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible] Valu
		£
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
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[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	£	
[illegible]	[illegible]	120.
[illegible]	[illegible]	127.
[illegible]	[illegible]	134.
[illegible]	[illegible]	144.
[illegible]	[illegible]	150.
[illegible]	[illegible]	151.
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

rst fifteen years following incorporation, the scale being £ for £ of eneral rates received during the first five years, 10s. per £ during he next five years, and 5s. per £ for the remaining period. The overnment also contributes grants in aid of roads and other works, nd occasionally a special endowment is given. The following table hows the receipts during 1898–9, the Government endowments and rants being specified :—

Total receipts—	£
Government	81,022
Rates, &c.	707,221
Total	788,243

Receipts per inhabitant in incorporated area—	£	s.	d.
Government	0	2	0
Rates, &c	0	17	10
Total	0	19	10

Receipts per square mile of incorporated area—	£	s.	d.
Government	29	6	11
Rates, &c	256	2	11
Total	285	9	10

The total expenditure for the same period amounted to £799,069, istributed as follows :—

	£
Public works, services, and improvements	444,715
Interest on loans and overdrafts	135,114
Repayments of loans	90,973
Salaries and office expenses	71,608
Payments to sinking funds	14,978
Other expenditure	41,081
	£799,069

The proportion of the expenditure incurred for interest on loans and verdrafts was about 17 per cent., while the average rate of interest ayable on the liabilities was 4·61 per cent.

The amount of loans and secured overdrafts outstanding on the 6th ebruary, 1899, was £2,736,703, of which £1,345,085 was raised in ondon, principally by the city of Sydney, while of the balance, £18,396 as floated in Victoria, and £1,373,222 in New South Wales. The nsecured overdrafts amounted to £192,310, so that the total liability n which interest was payable was £2,929,013. The interest charged anged from 3½ to 7½ per cent. for the secured loans, and from 4 to 8½ cent. on the unsecured overdrafts. Against the total liability, ng funds have been established, the total amount at the credit of funds being £298,385.

revenue of the local governing bodies is chiefly derived from
n, under the headings of general and special rates, licenses, dog
arket and weighbridge dues, &c The total amount collected
ll sources during the year ended September, 1898, was £1,115,754,
ich £92,328 was contributed by the Government, either as
ent or special grant, while the amount of general rates, &c,
d was £832,489, which represents the local taxation. The
, £190,937, includes sanitary fees amounting to £54,344, and
2,473 received as rents of municipal property The receipts per
nt in incorporated areas amounted to 19s. 2d., and per square
12 15s. 6d.

total expenditure for the year was £1,173,039, of which
86 were spent on public works, &c., while the amount paid for
was £166,545. The payments to sinking funds were £37,499,
repayments of loans from revenue, £12,250, the principal items
balance being—salaries, £132,757, and printing, &c., £20,955.
portion paid as interest on loans and overdrafts was about
cent. of the total, while the average interest payable on loans
rdrafts amounted to about £4 1s. 4d. per cent.

municipal loans outstanding were £3,985,314, and the bank
fts amounted to £108,781, giving a total interest bearing
of £4,094,095. The total habilities were £4,745,896, the
l items being—arrears due to sinking funds, £312,954 ; overdue
on loans, £171,258 ; and amounts due on contracts, £47,206.
sets totalled £3,774,326, the chief items being—municipal
y, £2,216,152 ; sinking funds, £917,467 , outstanding rates,
26 : and bank balances and cash in hand, £39,676.

number of municipalities with the annual and capital values of
y assessed for local purposes for the ten years ending with 1899,
follows —

Year	No of Municipalities.	Annual Value.	Capital Value.
		£	£
1890	192	12,931,526	187,558 511
1891	197	13,265,543	194,313,646
1892	198	13,733,770	203,351,380
1893	201	13,605,090	197,366,940
1894	203	12,779,600	189,461,350
1895	207	11,676,079	174,984,851
1896	208	10,641,200	167,197,780
1897	208	10,393,080	168,427,700
1898	208	10,345,535	171,253,984
1899	208	10,152,500	168,611,900

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Year.	
1891	
1892	

The expenditure for the same period was £506,137, the amount spent on public works being £338,028, while repayments of loans and interest amounted to £41,344, salaries and office expenses to £47,484, and all other disbursements £79,281.

The outstanding loans, including overdue instalments payable to the Government, amounted to £984,739, the whole of which, with the exception of the loans of the city of Brisbane and part of the indebtedness of South Brisbane, is due to the Government, as no local body, except the two mentioned, is allowed to borrow from outside sources.

The total assets on the same date were given as £1,305,123, the only item specified being outstanding rates, which amounted to £110,725.

The following table shows the assessed value of unimproved land upon which the rates are struck, and the annual value of properties in all the local government districts of Queensland :—

Year.	Assessed Value of Unimproved Land.	Annual Value.
	£	£
1892	44,188,698	2,974,460
1893	43,427,923	2,923,250
1894	41,772,975	2,811,850
1895	40,821,733	2,747,820
1896	40,810,384	2,747,080
1897	41,009,739	2,760,480
1898	41,486,971	2,792,060

South Australia.

Adelaide, the capital of South Australia, was proclaimed a municipality as far back as 1840, and was thus the first local body established in Australasia. The present general system of corporations and district councils was instituted in 1887.

In all cases the councillors and mayors are elected by the citizens, the representatives not being empowered to choose their presiding officer. The rates are assessed on the annual value, and the general rate must not exceed 1s. in the £, while lighting rates are limited to 1d., and park improvement rates to 3d. Water rates may also be imposed where necessary, and special rates for works in particular portions of municipalities.

The total area incorporated at the close of the last municipal year was 41,851 square miles, leaving 338,219 square miles still under the control of the central government. The large extent still unincorporated consists chiefly of the unsettled portion of the Colony, as the populous centres have all been brought under municipal government. The figures in this chapter relating to South Australia are in all cases exclusive of the Northern Territory.

The capital value of the incorporated districts is estimated at £39,663,150, and the annual value at £2,553,415. Adelaide, Port Adelaide, and Unley are the three largest corporations, and the following were their values for 1898-9, compared with those for 1891 —

Corporation.	1891.		1898-9	
	Annual Value.	Capital Value.	Annual Value.	Capital Value.
	£	£	£	£
Adelaide	392,819	3,928,190	425,826	4,258,260
Port Adelaide	78,177	781,770	101,003	1,010,030
Unley	79,081	790,810	109,792	1,097,750

The total receipts for 1898-9 were £336,540, the amount contributed by the Government as subsidy and grants being £101,727, while the rates collected were £136,185, leaving £98,628 from other sources. The expenditure was £336,408, the amount spent on works being £189,457, while salaries and office expenses absorbed £28,465, and miscellaneous services, £118,486.

The loans outstanding at the close of 1898-9 amounted to only £76,900. These loans were floated by the Adelaide City Council. The interest payable ranges from 3½ to 6 per cent., the average being 4·53 per cent.

The annual and capital values of all the incorporated districts for the past ten years are as shown in the following table:

Year.	Annual Value.	Capital Value.
	£	£
1890	2,535,714	39,388,200
1891	2,543,526	39,500,540
1892	2,538,094	39,423,160
1893	2,561,806	39,793,400
1894	2,552,820	39,653,900
1895	2,494,926	38,745,300
1896	2,463,764	38,267,480
1897	2,485,995	38,615,800
1898	2,518,088	39,123,720
1899	2,553,415	39,663,150

Western Australia.

The great resources of this State have only been made manifest during recent years, and the limited population, compared with the vast area of the colony, has prevented any great extension of local government.

Municipalities Act was passed in 1871, but only a few
incorporated under it, and, in 1895, the existing Act
nd a considerable increase in the area locally controlled has
its provisions. The local bodies are termed Municipalities,
, and Health Boards.
ipal Act provides for the election of both councillors and
ratepayers. With regard to Road Boards, however, the
elected by the ratepayers, and the chairmen by the

l rate imposed in municipalities must not exceed 1s. 6d. in
al value, and a special rate of 3d. in the £ may be levied
alth Act. In the City of Perth, however, an additional
d for water-supply; this rate must not exceed 1s. in the
alue. In the Road Board districts the general rate is
in the £ of annual value.
area of municipalities is only 64 square miles. The
the State comprises 975,856 square miles, a large proportion
ill under the central government. The Road Board dis-
considerable area, but as the general government exercises
ant of control over the expenditure, these districts cannot
endowed with full local government.
l value for the latest available year was estimated at
nd the annual value at £924,198. The corresponding
ne of the most important towns are given below. The
r 1891 are not available, but it may be said generally that
e earliest year for which figures are obtainable, there has
erable increase both in the annual and capital values, as
of the table will show:

ity.	1895.		1898-9.	
	Annual Value.	Capital Value.	Annual Value.	Capital Value.
	£	£	£	£
... .	95,852	798,767	268,972	2,241,430
... ...	26,013	225,791	28,674	249,340
.. ..	71,579	550,608	149,008	1,146,200
£	* .. .	. . .		
.. . . ..	21,570	269,625	101,083	550,500
... .	*	. . . .	117,464	1,174,640

* Not incorporated.

eceipts for 1898 amounted to £245,299, included in which £95,569 given by the Central Government as subsidy and nces. The general rates received were £73,917, while the 75,813, represents collections from rents, license fees, &c., of loans. The disbursements in the same year came to which the large proportion of £203,661 was spent on

ania has not been very much affected by the depreciation of rty, which was so severely felt in the Australian States :—

Municipality.	1891.		1898-9.	
	Annual Value.	Capital Value.	Annual Value.	Capital Value.
	£	£	£	£
. . . . .	174,950	2,915,833	175,485	2,924,750
eston	135,168	2,252,800	125,498	2,091,630

e total receipts of Municipalities, Town Boards, and Road Trusts 1898 were £146,792, the proportion contributed by the central rnment being only £12,281. The bulk of the collections consisted es, the amount of which was £89,225 ; and the remainder, £45,286, accounted for by fees, licenses, proceeds of loans, &c. The total nditure for the same year amounted to £147,012, but no details ing to this sum are available.

e total loans outstanding at the close of 1898 for the local bodies r review amounted to £512,402, and in the majority of cases ng funds have been established for the extinction of the debts, the amount accumulated at the end of 1898 being £46,290.

New Zealand.

New Zealand an Act was passed in 1852 which divided the colony six provinces, the local administration being vested in provincial cils. This system continued till 1876, when the provincial system bolished, and the whole colony, except the area within the forty-boroughs then existing, was subdivided into counties, each county g full control of its local affairs.

e provisions for election differ in the boroughs and counties ; as in former bodies both the councillors and mayors are elected by gresses," but in counties, the councillors are elected by the "county ors, and the chairmen by the councillors. The rating powers are different. In boroughs, the rates are in most cases levied on the al value, and the general rate is limited to 1s. 3d. in the £. Special may also be imposed, but general and special rates together must ceed 1s. 3d. in the £. In counties, and in a few of the boroughs tter having taken advantage of the "Rating on Unimproved Value of 1896"), the rates are charged on the capital value, and the al rate must not exceed three farthings in the £ in counties or gls where road boards or town districts exist, and six farthings

e net indebtedness, therefore, being £3,349,773. The annual charge r interest and sinking fund is approximately £220,733, the rates of terest ranging from 4 to 7 per cent.

Estimated by the annual value of its ratable property, Sydney is, and s been for many years, the second city of the British Empire; next ones Glasgow, and then Melbourne. None of the other Australasian ties ranks high on the list, but the extreme value of property in lation to population in the Australasian population centres as com-ared with the principal British cities, will be seen from the following ble:—

Cities and Towns.	Population.	Annual Value.		
		Total.	Per Inhabitant.	
		£	£ s.	d.
ustralasia—				
Sydney	438,300	4,995,200	11 7	11
Newcastle and suburbs	48,340	314,200	6 10	0
Melbourne	451,594	3,973,357	8 16	0
Ballarat and Ballarat East	38,348	235,130	6 2	4
Brisbane	110,959	1,061,109	9 11	4
Adelaide	149,672	1,149,328	7 13	7
Perth	34,610	321,606	9 5	10
Hobart	41,585	175,455	4 4	5
Wellington	47,382	449,355	9 7	9
nited Kingdom—				
London (County)	4,232,118	36,574,812	8 12	10
Glasgow	731,675	4,352,181	5 19	0
Manchester (including Salford)	752,269	3,807,845	5 3	11
Liverpool	668,645	3,859,479	5 14	10
Edinburgh	261,225	2,355,756	9 15	8
Birmingham	510,343	2,297,543	4 10	0
Leeds	416,618	1,522,092	3 13	1
Bristol	320,000	1,461,419	4 11	4
Sheffield	356,478	1,268,893	3 11	2
Bradford	235,000	1,149,735	4 17	10
Newcastle-on-Tyne	223,021	1,129,743	5 1	4
Belfast	330,000	1,064,000	3 4	6
Nottingham	236,137	918,000	3 17	9
Hull	229,887	876,811	3 16	3

Boards and Trusts in New South Wales.

In addition to the municipalities, there are bodies known as Boards Trusts whose function it is to construct and supervise certain works ch have been established for the benefit of districts usually com-sing one or more of the ordinary municipalities. These bodies are lly composed of members representing respectively the central rnment, the municipalities affected, and other persons directly

works. The amount advanced by the Government to local bodies under the Act to the end of 1892 was £370,549, and instalments to the amount of £85,886 were then overdue. It was found that the liability of some of the municipal councils was too heavy for their resources, and in 1894 an amending Act was passed distributing the payments over 100 years and reducing the interest to 3½ per cent. On the 30th June, 1899, the total amount expended by Government, inclusive of interest, stood at £723,775, viz.: £538,008 for works completed under Government control; £27,344 for works carried out under the supervision of municipal councils; and £158,423 for works still in course of construction. Of the total amount of £565,352 due on account of completed works to the 30th June, 1899, £19,031 had been repaid, and £76,698 had been remitted by Government, leaving the debt at £469,623, which is repayable by annual instalments of £17,037.

Boards and Trusts in Victoria.

In Victoria the port of Melbourne is under the control of a Harbour Trust, which was established as far back as 1877. A Tramway Trust, representing twelve of the metropolitan municipalities, has been formed under the provisions of an Act passed in 1883. This body was entrusted with power to construct tramways through the streets of the municipalities interested, the requisite funds being raised by loans on the security of the tramways and the revenues of the municipal bodies connected with the undertaking. The trustees had the option either of working the tramways themselves or of leasing them to a private company. They adopted the latter alternative, and the tramways are being worked on a thirty-two years' lease, commencing from 1884. In 1891 the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works was established for the purpose of constructing and supervising all works connected with water supply, sewerage, and drainage in Melbourne and suburbs. The Government is not directly represented on this Board, although to the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply in Sydney three members are nominated by the State. The reason for this difference is that in New South Wales the Government constructed the works and is responsible for the debt incurred in doing so, while in Victoria the Board carries out the work of construction, in addition to the maintenance and management to which the operations of the Sydney Board are confined. Throughout Victoria there are Water Works Trusts and Irrigation and Water Supply Trusts. During 1898-9 there were seventy two Water Works Trusts and thirty-one Irrigation and Water Supply Trusts. The Government authorised the advance of £1,201,574 for the former service, and for the latter £440,080, and the amounts outstanding in June, 1899, were £852,885 and £1,093,128 respectively. As in New South Wales, the municipalities are represented on the Fire Brigade Boards, and bear a proportionate share of the expenses.

The Government of Victoria, prior to the establishment of the Trusts for Water Works, Irrigation, and Water Supply, advanced money from the Public Loans Account to local bodies requiring assistance to construct these works. The amount advanced for the development of the services to June, 1899, including arrears of interest capitalised, was £397,871, which has to be repaid into a sinking fund, or by annual instalments. The amount so repaid is £74,396. The figures just given are exclusive of the advances to the city of Ballarat for the water supply works, as these are now under a special commission. The outstanding debt of the Ballarat Water Commission on the 30th June, 1899, was £281,439. Under a special Act the Government have power to advance funds to shires for the construction of tramways, and £60,811 had been so advanced up to June, 1899. The Government, under two different Acts, can also make advances to shires for the purchase of rabbit-proof fencing. The amount so advanced to June, 1899, was £192,35[illegible] of which £57,656 was outstanding on that date.

Boards and Trusts in other Colonies.

In Queensland the water supply service forms part of the local government system; the works are proposed by the municipal bodies, but the Government constructs and supervises them, and when completed hands them over to the local authorities with their attendant liabilities. The latter form a debt to the State which is repaid in instalments. The total cost of construction to 31st December, 1898, was £[illegible],[illegible]29, and the amount due to the Government on the same date was £788,611.

In South Australia there are no Boards or Trusts of any importance beyond the municipal bodies already mentioned; extensive municipal works exist, however, for the construction of important local works.

In Western Australia there are Road Boards, Local Boards of Health, and a Metropolitan Water Works Board.

In Tasmania seven Marine Boards, forming part of the local government system, have been established in different parts of the colony, and there are twelve Water Trusts in connection with municipal bodies. The rural police come under the local government system, the ratepayers who enjoy the benefits of police protection being obliged to bear the cost of administration. The control of the police is, however, under others appointed by the central government.

In New Zealand there are, in addition to the ordinary forms of municipal government, River and Harbour Boards, which are established throughout the colony. The number of these at the end of 1898 was respectively twenty-eight and twenty-six. There is a Drainage Board at Christchurch, while there are twelve Land Drainage Boards and Water Supply Boards at Waimakariri and Manukau.

plete returns of the Boards and Trusts in each colony are not obtainable; the following table, however, gives important details nection with some of these bodies:—

Board or Trust.	Receipts.			Expenditure	Outstanding Loans.
	Government.	Other.	Total.		
	£	£	£	£	£
outh Wales—					
politan Board of Water Supply & Sewerage	...	300,267	300,267	309,080	6,448,058
ter District Water Supply and werage	...	26,478	26,478	30,880	477,890
a—					
ourne Harbour Trust	...	132,948	132,948	137,909	2,000,000
ourne and Metropolitan Board Works	..	168,553	168,553	281,421	6,252,737
ourne Tramways Trust	...	426,234	426,234	369,068	1,650,000
Brigade Boards	18,498	28,908	47,406	44,265	130,000
r Works Trusts	..	..	.	.	852,885
ation and Water Supply Trusts	.	.		..	1,093,128
at Water Commission	..	...	...		281,439
land—					
r Works	10,860	102,365	113,225	120,294	788,611
n Australia—					
Boards	44,185	4,970	49,155	50,702	..
s of Health	4,768	31,721	36,489	34,209	..
politan Water Works Board.	14,708	19,097	33,805	37,322	367,829
ia—					
e Boards	12,361	27,170	39,531	33,114	44,139
houses	2,000	6,841	8,841	10,605	....
r Trusts	.	5,345	5,345	4,680	51,700
Trusts	5,045	17,111	22,156	22,129	1,500
Boards	7,005	11,244	18,249	16,371	12,800
aland—					
Boards	..	17,724	17,724	14,825	42,320
ur Boards	6,342	493,902	500,244	471,576	3,804,187
age Boards	90*	25,061	25,151	26,119	200,000
r Supply Boards	...	4,749	4,749	5,855	21,200

* Water supply only. † Including £1,284 from other Governments.

amounts shown in the foregoing table under Road Trusts and Boards in Tasmania are included in the figures given on page 627. tstanding loans for Tasmania are gross, sinking funds amounting 340, £1,829, £302, and £1,340 respectively being established in tion with the debts of Marine Boards, Water Trusts, Road , and Town Boards. In New Zealand, also, sinking funds ting to £8,063, £276,960, and £28,101 respectively exist in tion with the liabilities of River, Harbour, and Drainage Boards. outstanding loans of the Boards and Trusts of New South Wales te part of the public debt. This is true also with regard to ounts for Victoria, except the loans of the Tramway Trust and

the Melbourne Harbour Trust, the Fire Brigades Boards, and part of the loans of the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, which are not guaranteed. The liabilities shown for Queensland and Western Australia also form part of the public debt of those colonies. But the amounts given for New Zealand are not advanced from the General Loan Account. In the foregoing table the advances made by the Governments to the borrowing bodies are included.

The total revenue of all local bodies is shown in the following table, the receipts from the various Governments being distinguished from the ordinary receipts :—

State.	Receipts from Government.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
New South Wales	81,022	1,033,966	1,114,988
Victoria	110,826	1,780,069	1,890,895
Queensland	126,890	473,562	600,452
South Australia	101,727	234,813	336,540
Western Australia	159,230	205,518	364,748
Tasmania	38,692	202,222	240,914
Commonwealth	618,387	3,930,150	4,548,737
New Zealand	299,178	1,592,686	1,891,864
Australasia	917,565	5,522,836	6,440,401

Indebtedness of Local Bodies.

The following table shows the total indebtedness of local bodies in each of the colonies for which returns are available. The figures include the liabilities to the Government. It must also be explained that the liabilities of Road Trusts and Town Boards in Tasmania have been included with municipalities :—

State.	Outstanding Loans.		
	Municipalities.	Boards, Trusts, &c.	Total for local purposes.
	£	£	£
New South Wales	2,736,703	6,925,948	9,662,651
Victoria	3,985,314	12,260,180	16,245,494
Queensland	984,739	788,611	1,773,350
South Australia	76,900	...	76,900
Western Australia	261,100	367,829	628,929
Tasmania	512,402	110,139	622,541
Commonwealth	8,557,158	20,452,716	29,009,874
New Zealand	3,685,512	4,067,707	7,753,219
Australasia	12,242,670	24,520,423	36,763,093

For the amounts that have just been given the local bodies are responsible directly to their creditors in part, and the general governments hold themselves directly liable for the balance. In the following table is given a division of the indebtedness of local bodies into the sum due to the State and that due to the public. It may be mentioned that the amount owing to the State is included with the general debt of the colonies, and in order to estimate the total State and municipal indebtedness the figures in the second column only have to be added to those on page 798: –

State.	Amount of Corporation Indebtedness included in the Public Debt.	Loans of Local Bodies floated in open market.	Total Indebte
	£	£	£
New South Wales	6,925,948	2,736,703	9,662,651
Victoria	5,035,659	11,209,844	16,245,503
Queensland	1,468,350	305,000	1,773,350
South Australia	..	76,900	76,900
Western Australia	367,829	261,100	628,929
Tasmania	108,489	514,052	622,541
Commonwealth	13,906,275	15,103,599	29,009,874
New Zealand	789,965	6,963,254	7,753,219
Australasia	14,696,240	22,066,853	36,763,093

RAILWAYS.

[illegible] country like Australasia, ill s[illegible] [illegible] construction is absolutely es[illegible] [illegible] period, and for the las[illegible] [illegible] colonies have been fully [illegible] [illegible] work. For a long time, ho[illegible] [illegible] the difficulty of borrowing [illegible] [illegible] but since the year 18[illegible] [illegible] the work of construction [illegible] [illegible] of Australasia ha[illegible] [illegible] As the area of the seven c[illegible] [illegible] United States of America, wh[illegible] [illegible] and a half millions, it is almo[illegible] [illegible] ran through districts very s[illegible] [illegible] the case in the colonies of Quee[illegible] [illegible] Australia, where there are vast[illegible] [illegible] the nature of permanent settleme[illegible] [illegible] the colonies can it be sai[illegible] [illegible] areas. Indeed, if a fau[illegible] [illegible] in the past, it is that i[illegible] [illegible] in empty country the r[illegible] [illegible] for many years to [illegible] [illegible] consequence the railway ad[illegible] [illegible] with a number of unpro[illegible] [illegible] but the vast maj[illegible] [illegible] drawbacks, however, th[illegible] [illegible] yield a net [illegible] [illegible] Australasia 3·27 per cent [illegible]

[illegible] CONSTRUCTION.

[illegible] the railway into the colo[illegible] [illegible] 1846, and in August of [illegible] [illegible] held in Sydney to s[illegible] [illegible] But no decided step [illegible] [illegible] 1848, when the Sy[illegible] [illegible] for the purpose of [illegible] [illegible] and Liverpool, to be [illegible] [illegible] The first sod was t[illegible] [illegible] Sir Charles Fitzroy [illegible] [illegible] Although started d[illegible] [illegible] was an abundant supp[illegible]

bour, the scheme was only well under weigh when the discovery of gold used a stampede from the city, and the company was left without rkmen to carry on the undertaking. Undeterred, however, by the ficulties into which the changing conditions of the country had plunged e Sydney Railroad and Tramway Company, private enterprise in 1853 aved the further task of constructing a line between Newcastle and aitland; but this project proved no more successful than the other, d in the following year the Government was forced to step in and ry out the schemes for which the two companies had been promoted. om that time the work of construction was vigorously pressed forward, d on the 26th September, 1855, the line from Sydney to Parramatta, miles in length, was opened to traffic; and on the 11th April, 1857, wcastle was connected with East Maitland. The extension to Goulrn of the Sydney line was completed on the 27th May, 1869.

While the Sydney Railroad and Tramway Company was trying to rmount the obstacles that had arisen in its path, the work of railway nstruction was begun in the neighbouring colony of Victoria, no fewer an three private companies being promoted in 1853 for that purpose. aterial assistance in the shape of land grants and guarantee of interest s afforded by the Government; and on the 13th September, 1854, e first completed railway in Australasia, a line extending from nders-street, Melbourne, to Port Melbourne, was opened to traffic. had been begun nearly three years after the line to connect Sydney th Parramatta, but was only 2¼ miles long. No further mileage was ought into operation until May 13, 1857, when the Melbourne and bson's Bay Railway Company, which had constructed the first line, ened communication with St. Kilda; and on the 17th June of the me year a line from Williamstown to Geelong, 39 miles in length, which d been built by another company, was declared open. Meanwhile the overnment of the colony had not remained inactive. In addition to sisting private enterprise with liberal concessions, it had taken over 1855 an unfinished line started by the third of the companies referred , and was carrying on the work of construction on its own account. y the year 1863 it had acquired all the lines in the colony with the ception of those owned by the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Company, hich were not purchased until the year 1878.

Although a line from Goolwa to Port Elliot, 6 miles in length, over hich the locomotive now passes, was opened on the 18th May, 1854, was at that time merely a horse tramway; and the first railway in outh Australia was a line connecting the city with Port Adelaide, 7½ iles long, which was thrown open to traffic on the 21st April, 1856. he following year saw a railway constructed as far north as Gawler; hile on the 1st October, 1889, a line from Palmerston to Pine Creek, the Northern Territory, which had been built by the South Australian overnment, was opened, the length being 145¼ miles.

The northern colony of Queensland had enjoyed the privilege of self-overnment for several years when, early in 1864, a line to connect

[illegible] Chester was commenced, and on the 31st July of the [illegible] was opened.

[illegible] the Tasmanian Parliament granted a sum of £5,000 in [illegible] the survey of a line to connect Hobart with Launceston, [illegible] railway in the island was one between Launceston and [illegible], 45 miles in length, which was opened on the 10th [illegible], 1871, having been commenced three years before. It was [illegible] a private company, to whose capital, however, the Government [illegible] eight-ninths of the total amount of £450,000, on condition that the interest should be a first charge on the net receipts, and [illegible] August, 1872, the line passed entirely into the ownership [illegible] between Hobart and Launceston was [illegible] connecting the southern city [illegible] by an English company [illegible] Commonwealth to introduce [illegible] line from the port [illegible] and opened in 18[illegible] [illegible] New Zealand was due [illegible] who were desirous [illegible] of Christchurch and the [illegible] line, as far as Ferrymead [illegible] December 1863.

[illegible] in the [illegible] the earlier years. [illegible] of the population and the [illegible] not justify the expenditure which [illegible] wide extensions of the lines. It [illegible] out, to the low estimation in which [illegible] in London, and the consequent high [illegible] for railway construction had to [illegible] however, all the colonies have made [illegible] table will be found the length of [illegible] year and the total mileage at the close of the [illegible]

	Miles opened.					
	Total.			During each year.		
	[illegible]	New Zealand.	Australasia.	Commonwealth.	New Zealand.	Australasia.
[illegible]	[illegible]		2½	2½		[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]		16½	14		14
[illegible]	[illegible]		22½	16		16
[illegible]	[illegible]		117	84½		[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]		132	15		15
[illegible]	[illegible]		171	39		39
[illegible]	[illegible]		215	44		44

Year.	Miles opened.					
	Total.			During each year		
	Commonwealth	New Zealand	Australasia.	Commonwealth	New Zealand	Australasia.
1861	243	.....	243	28	.....	28
1862	373	.....	373	130	.....	130
1863	395	5	400	22	5	27
1864	469	5	474	74	.....	74
1865	490	5	495	21	.....	21
1866	519	5	524	29	.....	29
1867	711	7	718	192	2	194
1868	782	7	789	71	.....	71
1869	911	7	918	129	.....	129
1870	994	46	1,040	83	39	122
1871	1,030	105	1,135	36	59	95
1872	1,168	105	1,273	138	.....	138
1873	1,353	145	1,498	185	40	225
1874	1,491	209	1,700	138	64	202
1875	1,602	542	2,144	111	333	444
1876	1,961	718	2,679	359	176	535
1877	2,493	954	3,447	532	236	768
1878	2,906	1,070	3,976	413	116	529
1879	3,222	1,171	4,393	316	101	417
1880	3,675	1,258	4,933	453	87	540
1881	4,192	1,334	5,526	517	76	593
1882	4,704	1,465	6,169	512	131	643
1883	5,107	1,480	6,587	403	15	418
1884	5,855	1,570	7,425	748	90	838
1885	6,227	1,654	7,881	372	84	456
1886	6,859	1,810	8,669	632	156	788
1887	7,657	1,841	9,498	798	31	829
1888	8,365	1,865	10 230	708	24	732
1889	9,162	1,912	11,074	797	47	844
1890	9,757	1,956	11,713	595	44	639
1891	10,163	2,011	12,174	406	55	461
1892	10,394	2,011	12 405	231	.....	231
1893	10,688	2,108	12,796	294	97	391
1894	10,974	2,168	13,142	286	60	346
1895	11,600	2,190	13,790	626	22	648
1896	11,641	2,190	13,831	41	.....	41
1897	11,970	2,185	14 155	329	(—) 5	324
1898	12,170	2,222	14,392	200	37	237
1899	12,702	2,257	14,959	532	35	567
1900	12,995	2,271	15,266	293	14	307

It will be seen from the foregoing table that the lines opened in the Commonwealth and Australasia averaged 30 miles in length during each year from 1854 to 1861; from 1862 to 1871 the annual average was 82 miles in the Commonwealth and 89 in Australasia, from 1872

to 1881, 312 miles in the Commonwealth and 439 in Australasia; from 1882 to 1891, 597 miles in the Commonwealth and 665 in Australasia; and from 1892 to 1900, 314 miles in the Commonwealth and 343 in Australasia. It is now the established policy of each colony to keep the railways under State control, and only in exceptional circumstances is that policy departed from. Excluding coal, timber, and other lines which are not open to general traffic, there are within the Commonwealth only 490 miles of private lines, equal to but 3·77 per cent. of the total mileage open; and in Australasia only 657 miles, or 4·3[illegible] per cent. of the total mileage open. In Victoria the railways are entirely in the hands of the Government; while in Western Australia there are 277 miles of private lines, or [illegible] per cent. of the total mileage of the colony; in New South Wales, [illegible] miles; in Tasmania, 10[illegible] miles; and in South Australia, [illegible] miles. The private lines of New Zealand have a total length of [illegible] miles. A departure from the ordinary policy of the [illegible] is understand where the construction of the railway [illegible] a distance of about [illegible] miles has been [illegible], and the work is now in progress. [illegible] Western Australia, none of these [illegible] important of them being primarily [illegible] of important mines, and not [illegible].

[illegible] of Western Australia from that pursued [illegible] the inability of the Government [illegible] extension was urgently required in the [illegible] enterprise was therefore encouraged [illegible] take the work of construction [illegible] have modified the State policy and [illegible] Government acquired the Great Southern [illegible], one of the two trunk lines in private hands [illegible] by the West Australian Land Company [illegible] land grant system, the State concession [illegible] of line laid down, of which the original [illegible] acres. The total price paid by the Government [illegible] with all the interests of the company and of [illegible], was £1,100,000, of which £800,000 is set down [illegible] which the railway authorities are expected [illegible] exclusive of the amount invested in rolling stock. [illegible] is the Midland Railway, 277 miles in length, [illegible] Midland Railway Company of Western Australia [illegible] the land granted by the State was also 12,[illegible] In 1891 the Government granted some slight [illegible] company, and in the following year guaranteed [illegible] per cent. debentures, the security being a first charge [illegible] its equipment, and 2,400,000 acres selected land [illegible] the State may foreclose should the company [illegible] to the amount of £20,000.

The following statement shows the gauge and length of the private ways of Australasia :—

Line.	Gauge.	Length.
	ft. in.	miles.
New South Wales -		
Denilquin-Moama	5 3	45
Cockburn-Broken Hill	3 6	36
Clyde-Rosehill	4 8½	3
Warwick Farm	4 8½	1
South Australia—		
Glenelg Railway Co.'s lines.		
Holdfast Bay	5 3	7
Victoria Square	5 3	7
Sidings, loops, &c.	5 3	6
Western Australia—		
Midland - Midland Junction Walkaway Junction	3 6	277
Tasmania—		
Emu Bay-Mount Bischoff	3 6	80
Mount Lyell	3 6	21
Dundas-Zeehan	3 6	7
New Zealand—		
Wellington-Manawatu	3 6	84
Kaitangata Stirling	3 6	4
Midland Railway	3 6	79

A proviso has been inserted in the charters of the companies owning private lines in New South Wales, whereby after a certain date the Government can, if disposed, acquire the lines at a valuation. Similar provisions are found in most of the charters granted by the other colonies permitting the construction of private lines.

In the construction of railways during the last working year the Colony of New South Wales displayed most activity. Of the 267 miles thrown open to traffic in Australasia during the twelve months ended 30th June, 1900, 64½ were opened in New South Wales, comprising the Tamworth to Manilla line, 29½ miles, and Moree to Narrabri, 35 miles.

The following table shows the extension of the railway in each colony since 1861.

State.	1861	1866	1871	1876	1881	1886	1891-2	1899-1900
New South Wales	73	143	358	554	1,040	1,941	2,286	2,896
Victoria	114	270	276	718	1,247	1,754	2,903	3,218
New Zealand	*	50	218	298	800	1,433	2,320	2,801
South Australia	56	56	133	308	845	1,226	1,823	1,901
Western Australia	*	*	*	38	92	202	657	1,632
Tasmania	*	*	45	45	168	303	425	547
Commonwealth	243	519	1,030	1,961	4,192	6,859	10,394	12,995
New Zealand	*	5	105	718	1,334	1,810	2,011	2,271
Australasia	243	524	1,135	2,679	5,526	8,669	12,405	15,266

* Railways not in existence.

In New South Wales the railway extensions will be chiefly confined to
ffecting the various systems already constructed. At the present time
veral lines of what is termed the "pioneer" class are in course of con-
uction in level pastoral country. These are of a light and cheap kind,
which the produce of the settlers may be conveyed to the trunk
es at a reasonable speed and at a cheaper rate than carriage by road.
Queensland, with its vast expanse of partly-settled territory and
tensive seaboard, the railways are being constructed in separate
stems. The lines commence from each of the principal ports and
n inland, but there is no doubt that not many years will elapse before
ese systems will become branches of a main trunk-line which, in all
elihood, will be the Brisbane-Charleville line extended as far as
rumanton at the Gulf of Carpentaria. In this colony a system has
en introduced by which railways are constructed under a guarantee
ven by the local authority on behalf of the ratepayers of the district.
tails of this system are given on a subsequent page. In Victoria,
smania, and New Zealand the railways are well developed compared
th size of territory, and any future extensions will hardly be on so
ge a scale as in the other colonies. In Western Australia great
tivity now prevails in extending the lines to the gold-fields, and
the south-western portion of the colony in the interests of permanent
ttlement.

Control of State Railways.

The colonies of Victoria, South Australia, New South Wales, and
eensland have found it expedient to place the management and
intenance of railways under the control of commissioners. Victoria,
1883, was the first colony to adopt this system; four years later
th Australia made the change, while New South Wales and Queens-
d followed in 1888. Each of these colonies appointed three officials
commissioners, and conferred upon them large executive powers,
nting to almost independent control, the object aimed at being to
re economical management of the lines free from political inter
ence. Subsequently Queensland, Victoria, and South Australia
uced the number of commissioners to one; but in New South Wales,
ere the administration has been most successful, no changes in the
tem have been made. The control of the New Zealand railways was
handed over to a body of three commissioners in 1887; but at
beginning of 1895 the Government resumed charge of the lines, a
ef manager being responsible to a Minister for Railways.
In New South Wales and Victoria an additional safeguard in rail-
y construction prevails. All proposals for new lines are submitted
committee selected from Members of the Houses of Parliament.
ese committees take evidence regarding the suitability of the route
posed, the probable cost of construction, the financial prospects of the

nd an experiment is being made in the construction of a 2-ft. gauge , at one-fourth the cost of a line laid down to the Tasmanian stand- gauge. The advisability of constructing lines of this class is also ng considered in Victoria. The total length of line in Australasia down to a gauge of 5 ft. 3 in. is 3,725 miles; there are 2,811¼ miles the 4-ft. 8½ in. gauge, and 8,072¼ miles on the 3 ft. 6 in. gauge.

As far back as May, 1889, Mr. Eddy urged the Government of New uth Wales to take action with the object of securing a uniform gauge the colonies, and frequently since that date the Railway Commis- ners have directed attention to the urgency of dealing with this portant question before the colonies incur greater expenditure in lway construction. They have suggested that the settlement of the sult question of the adoption of a standard gauge should be ap- ached from the standpoint of which of the two gauges, 4 ft 8½ in. 5 ft. 3 in., can be adopted at the least cost and with the smallest ount of inconvenience to the country; and that the whole of the ways of New South Wales and Victoria, with that part of the South strahan lines laid to the 5 ft. 3 in. gauge, as well as the line to Cock- n, and all the lines in Queensland south of Brisbane leading to New uth Wales, shall be altered to the standard, the cost of altering the ways and the rolling stock necessary to work them to be a national rge.

Comparison of Railway Facilities.

The population and area of territory per mile of line open vary siderably in the different colonies. In comparison with population, stern Australia, South Australia, and Queensland—the most ensive colonies—have the greatest mileage, but in proportion to area of territory, Victoria, New Zealand, and Tasmania take the . The annexed table shows the relation of the railway mileage opulation and to the area of each colony for the year 1899-1900:

State	Per Mile of Line Open.	
	Population	Area.
	No.	sq. miles.
New South Wales	468	107
Victoria	361	27
Queensland . .	172	238
South Australia* . . .	194	475
Western Australia . . .	105	598
Tasmania	333	48
Commonwealth	287	228
New Zealand	333	46
Australasia	293	201

* Including Northern Territory.

In the following table are given the average population and area territory per mile of line open in the principal countries of the wor Of course a comparison can only be made fairly between Australa nd other young countries in process of development :—

Countries.	Length of Railway.	Per Mile of Line Open.	
		Population.	Area.
	miles.	No.	sq. miles
United Kingdom	21,659	1,759	6
France	25,728	1,497	8
Germany	28,637	1,826	7
Austria-Hungary	20,536	2,014	12
Belgium	2,850	2,340	4
Netherlands	1,899	2,672	7
Switzerland	2,313	1,349	7
Sweden	6,350	797	27
Norway	1,213	1,787	103
Russia (exclusive of Finland)	28,244	3,670	69
Spain	8,020	2,199	25
Italy	9,592	3,321	12
India (inclusive of Native States)	22,491	12,706	69
Canada	16,870	307	217
Cape Colony	2,357	648	94
Argentine Republic	9,885	400	133
Brazil	8,718	1,044	388
Chili	2,662	1,019	109
United States of America	186,810	335	19
Commonwealth of Australia	12,995	237	228
Australasia	15,266	293	201

Cost of Construction.

At the close of the year 1899–1900, the cost of construction equipment of the State railways completed and open to traffic in Commonwealth was, in round figures, £122,000,000, or 62 per cen the public debts of the colonies composing it, after deducting sinl funds. The construction and equipment of the railways of Austral

8,000,000, or nearly 58 per cent. of the public debt of Aus-after deducting sinking funds. To what extent the provinces ributed to this expenditure will be apparent from the subjoined wing the total cost and the average per mile :—

State.	Year.	Length of line open.	Gauge.	Total cost of Construction and Equipment.	Average cost per mile.
		miles.	ft. in.	£	£
Wales	1900	2,811¼	4 8½	38,477,269	13,687
... ...	,,	3,218	5 3	39,658,819	12,324
... .	,,	2,801	3 6	19,320,902	6,897
ralia	,,	1,736¼	5 3 / 3 6	13,014,428	7,496
Territory...	,,	145½	3 6	1,155,267	7,940
ustralia	,,	1,355	3 6	6,856,363	5,060
.. . .	1899	437¾	3 6	3,604,222	8,233
nwealth	. .	12,504¼	.. .	122,087,270	9,763
nd	1900	2,104	3 6	16,703,887	7,939
lasia	.. .	14,608¾	. ..	138,791,157	9,500

be seen that the lines which have been constructed most re those of Western Australia, where the average cost per only been £5,060, as compared with an average of £9,763 Commonwealth and £9,500 for the whole of Australasia. In y there have been few engineering difficulties to contend with, lines laid down have been of a light kind. In New South e average cost, given as £13,687, has been somewhat reduced consequence of the construction of light "Pioneer" lines, built penditure of £2,019 per mile. It is proposed by the Minister e Works to construct several new lines by day labour, as the Construction Department has had a somewhat unfortunate e in regard to claims for extras to contracts, and expensive in resisting such claims. In Victoria the average cost has ased from £13,153 to £12,324 since 1891. At that date it ed to apply the "butty-gang" system to the construction of n the colony, and to build all new country lines as cheaply as and this has been strictly adhered to. Fairly substantial dway has been laid down, with reduced ballast; unless they

have been absolutely necessary, fencing and gatehouses have been dispensed with, and only a skeleton equipment for stations and water supplies has been provided. As settlement progresses and traffic is developed, it is intended to raise these lines to the requisite standard of efficiency. In Queensland construction is now proceeding, in some cases, under a guarantee from the local authorities.

It would hardly be fair to institute a comparison between the cost of construction per mile in Australasia and in the densely-populated countries of Europe, for while in Europe the resumption of valuable ground is perhaps the heaviest expense in connection with the building of railways, in the colonies this item of expenditure is not of leading importance. The cost per mile in certain sparsely-settled countries is as follows :—

Canada	£11,624
Cape Colony	10,452
United States	11,626
Argentina	10,762
Mexico	9,417
Chili	14,463
Brazil	14,626

while for the Commonwealth of Australia it is £9,763, and for New Zealand £7,939

Revenue and Working Expenses.

The avowed object of State railway construction in Australasia has been to promote settlement, apart from considerations of the profitable working of the lines ; but at the same time the principle has been kept in view that in the main the railways should be self supporting, and some of the colonies have, with more or less success, handed them over to Commissioners to be worked according to commercial principles, free from political interference. With the exception of South Australia, so far as the Palmerston Pine Creek line in the Northern Territory is concerned, in all the colonies the revenue derived from the railway traffic exceeds the working expenses. During 1898-9 the colonies of New South Wales and Western Australia derived a profit from the working of the lines ; and for the year ended 30th June, 1900, the colonies of South Australia proper and Western Australia were similarly favoured. Even in New South Wales, where the Commissioners have achieved most commendable results during the term of their administration, and claim to have at last made the lines self-supporting, there is still a deficiency for the year ended 30th June, 1900, when it is borne in mind that the average price received for the loans of the colony is but £96·48 per £100 of stock, and the interest payable calculated accordingly. The net sum available to meet interest charg

t

the last two working years will be found in the following table, g the earnings and working expenses:—

State.	Working year, 1898-9.			Working year, 1899-1900.		
	Gross Earnings.	Working Expenses.	Net Earnings.	Gross Earnings.	Working Expenses.	Net Earnings.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
uth Wales	3,145,273	1,690,142	1,454,831	3,163,57[illegible]	1,769,520	1,[illegible]94,052
a	2,873,729	1,797,726	1,076,[illegible]03	[illegible]025,162	1,90[illegible],[illegible]40	1,122,[illegible]22
land ...	1,373,475	784,811	[illegible]88,664	1,464,309	948,691	[illegible],7[illegible]8
Australia	1,058,397	617,380	441,[illegible]17	1,[illegible]06,087	657,841	500,146
rn Territory	14,758	17,475	( ) 2,617	14,700	24,340	( ) [illegible],541
rn Australia	1,004,[illegible]20	712,329	292,291	1,250,512	861,4[illegible]0	3[illegible]8,04[illegible]
nia* ..	178,180	141,170	37,001	193,158	152,798	40,[illegible]60
Commonwealth ..	9,648,432	5,761,242	3,887,[illegible]90	10,287,589	6,317,2[illegible]0	[illegible]970,389
ealand† .	1,499,665	929,738	539,[illegible]27	1,023,891	1,052,358	571,[illegible]33
Australasia . .	11,118,097	6,600,980	4,427,117	11,911,480	7,[illegible]69,558	4,541,9[illegible]2

Years ended 31st December, 1898 and 1899. † Years ended 31st March, 1899 and 1900.
( ) Denotes deficiency in amount available to meet working expenses.

e proportion of gross earnings absorbed by working expenses during of the last five years will be found below:—

State.	Percentage of Gross Earnings absorbed by Working Expenses.				
	1895-6.	1896-7.	1897-8.	1898-9.	1899-1900.
South Wales	55·02	53·11	53·34	53·75	55·93
ria	64·39	59·77	66·92	62·55	62·89
sland .	59·36	58·01	56·43	57·14	64·78
Australia	59·10	59·92	61·31	58·33	56·37
ern Territory . .	101·22	105·91	143·50	117·73	164·47
rn Australia	49·79	63·09	77·11	70·91	68·40
nia* .. .	80·42	74·98	77·04	79·23	79·10
Commonwealth .	59·17	58·02	60·70	59·71	61·46
Zealand† . . .	63·51	61·35	62·30	63·26	64·80
Australasia	59·71	58·44	60·91	60·18	61·94

* Years ended 31st December, 1895-9. † Years ended 31st March, 1896-1900.

will be seen from this table that the percentage of working ses for the colonies comprised in the Commonwealth has increased 59·17 to 61·46 in the course of the five years; the increase for alasia as a whole being from 59·71 to 61·94. In Victoria the ing expenses during the period decreased 1·5 per cent., in South alia proper, 2·73 per cent; and in Tasmania, 1·32 per cent. The

rate of return on capital which is shown in the foregoing table nts the interest on the gross cost of the lines. In some cases the al amount of outstanding debentures is less than the actual liture on construction and equipment, owing to the fact that some have been redeemed; but as the redemption has been effected by of fresh loans charged to general services, or by payments from neral revenue, and not out of railway earnings, no allowance on ccount can reasonably be claimed.

table given below shows the rate of interest returned on the l expenditure for each of the last five years, with the sum which eturn falls short of the actual rate of interest payable on cost of uction. In the case of New Zealand, only the nominal loss is ; the actual loss was somewhat higher —

State.	1895-6.	1896-7.	1897-8.	1898-9.	1899-1900.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Interest returned on Capital Expenditure.					
outh Wales	3·44	3·78	3·74	3·83	3·62
a	2·24	2·74	2·40	2·75	2·83
land	2·63	2·37	2·92	3·15	2·67
Australia ...	3·21	3·26	2·98	3·42	3·01
rn Territory	(—)0·02	(—)0·09	(—)0·53	(—)0·22	(—)0·82	
n Australia ...	11·48	9·05	4·62	4·55	5·81
ia*	0·83	1·16	1·09	1·03	1·12
Commonwealth ...	3·01	3·36	3·11	3·31	3·25
aland	2·80	3·19	3·24	3·29	3·42
Australasia	2·98	3·34	3·12	3·31	3·27
Net Loss in Working Lines.					
outh Wales ...	0·42	0·03	0·05	+0·05	0·14
a	1·84	1·26	1·50	1·20	1·12
land	1·40	1·16	1·11	0·88	1·34
Australia	0·91	0·79	1·05	0·53	+0·04
rn Territory ...	4·14	4·14	4·50	4·17	4·91
n Australia	+7·64	+5·45	+1·03	+1·01	+2·35
ia*	3·05	2·71	2·75	2·79	2·68
Commonwealth	1·01	0·61	0·80	0·57	0·60
aland	1·14	0·73	0·65	0·52	0·37
Australasia	1·03	0·63	0·80	0·57	0·57

* Years 1895 to 1899. † Net profit.

In 1881 the New South Wales railways yielded 5·31 per cent.—a higher rate of interest on the capital cost than was ever reached before or since. In the same year the Victorian lines yielded a return of 4·04 per cent., which is the highest on record in that colony, with the exception of 4·18 in the year 1886. The decline in the net profits was largely due to the extension of the lines in sparsely populated districts but with the adoption of a more prudent policy in the matter of construction largely dictated by the severe financial pressure to which the colonies were subjected, and with more careful working, the returns, as will be evident from the foregoing table, are again showing improvement.

Earnings and Expenses per Mile.

The gross earnings, expenditure, and net earnings per average mile worked during the last two years were as follow:

State.	Gross Earnings.		Expenditure.		Net Earnings.	
	1898-9.	1899-1900	1898-9.	1899-1900.	1898-9	1899-1900.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales..	1,163	1,153	625	645	538	508
Victoria	920	949	576	597	344	352
Queensland	506	523	289	339	217	184
South Australia ...	614	674	358	380	256	294
Northern Territory	102	102	119	167	(—) 17	( ) 65
Western Australia.	791	930	561	636	230	294
Tasmania*	400	434	317	343	83	91
Commonwealth	796	827	468	508	328	319
New Zealand .	712	774	450	501	262	273
Australasia .	784	819	466	507	318	312

1898 and 1899

For the colonies comprised in the Commonwealth the gross earnings per average mile worked during 1899 1900 were £31 more than in the previous year, and the working expenses were increased by £40 leaving the net earnings at £319 in 1899 1900, as compared with £328 in 1898 9. For the whole of Australasia the gross earnings per average mile worked during 1899 1900 were £35 more than in the previous year, and the working expenses were increased by £41 leaving the net earnings at £312 in 1899 1900 as against £318 in 1898 9. Below will be found a table giving the returns per train mile. In all the colonies there was an increase in the train mileage

run during 1899-1900. The increase in Western Australia was nearly a million miles :—

State.	Gross Earnings.		Expenditure.		Net Earnings.	
	1898-9.	1899-1900.	1898-9.	1899-1900.	1898-9.	1899-1900.
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
New South Wales..	85·72	85·36	46·07	47·75	39·65	37·61
Victoria	71·00	71·83	44·41	45·17	26·59	26·66
Queensland ..	56·62	54·69	32·35	35·43	24·27	19·26
South Australia	65·14	67·02	38·00	37·78	27·14	29·24
Northern Territory	115·53	114·53	136·02	188·37	(-)20·49	(-)73·84
Western Australia.	74·01	71·70	52·48	49·04	21·53	22·66
Tasmania* . .	56·17	57·50	44·50	45·49	11·67	12·01
Commonwealth	71·71	71·23	42·81	43·74	28·90	27·49
New Zealand . .	89·00	93·00	56·22	60·31	32·78	32·69
Australasia .	73·92	73·58	44·28	45·52	29·64	28·06

* 1898 and 1899.

Financial Results of Foreign Railways.

The interest on capital cost, the proportion of working expenses to the gross revenue, and the returns per train mile for the railways of some of the principal countries of the world are given below. The figures for the countries other than Australasia refer either to the year 1898 or 1897 :—

Country.	Capital Cost.		Return per Cent.	Working Expenses Proportion to Gross Revenue.	Per Train Mile.		
	Total.	Per Mile Open.			Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.	Net Revenue.
	£	£	p. cent.	per cent.	d.	d.	d.
[illegible] Kingdom .	1,134,458,462	52,378	3·55	58·14	60·7	35·3	25·4
[illegible] .	635,920,000	27,[illegible]	4·30	52·08	68·3	35·0	32·[illegible]
[illegible]	58[illegible],000	2[illegible]	6·00	55·68	76·9	41·8	34·1
[illegible]	59[illegible]	29,880	5·71	60·06	56·7	[illegible]	22·7
[illegible] States	2,08[illegible],[illegible]	11,620	4·32	61·44	65·5	47·0	18·5
[illegible]	19[illegible]	11,624	2·19	65·54	67·2	38·4	18·8
[illegible]	2[illegible]	10,452	4·63	65·53	84·3	55·2	29·1
[illegible]onwealth of Aus[illegible] .	122,087,270	9,763	3·25	61·40	71·2	43·7	27·5
[illegible]	138,791,157	9,500	3·27	61·87	73·5	45·5	28·0

The figures given above for the Cape Colony are for State lines only, [illegible] the return on the invested capital is exclusive of the share of the [illegible]ange Free State in the profits.

The percentage of receipts from coaching traffic to the total receipts somewhat less in the Australasian colonies than in the United gdom, where for the year 1899 the coaching receipts formed 45·63 per . of the total obtained from goods and passenger traffic. The figures each colony are given below :—

State	Coaching Traffic	Goods Traffic
	per cent.	per cent.
New South Wales	38·80	61·20
Victoria	48·59	51·41
Queensland	34·52	65·48
South Australia	29·73	70·27
Northern Territory	26·98	73·02
Western Australia	27·90	72·10
Tasmania	40·46	59·54
Commonwealth	38·78	61·22
New Zealand	32·51	67·49
Australasia	38·00	62·00

Average Weight of Train Load.

The useful comparisons that may be made between the railway tems of the various colonies are very limited, and greater uniformity the presentation of the railway reports is extremely desirable in w of the provisions in the Commonwealth Act for the possible ate of the railway systems by the central government. An example want of uniformity in an important particular is the absence of ormation which would enable the average train load to be ascertained is information can only be given for two States—South Australia d New South Wales—and for the latter colony in a perfect manner one year only. The figures for South Australia show a decided crease in the average weight during the last five years. The figures otal do not include the business of the Northern Territory :—

Year	Goods mileage	Ton mileage	Average weight of train
			tons
1896	2,089,911	134,846,696	64·52
1897	2,265,277	159,454,588	70·34
1898	2,273,537	157,143,651	69·11
1899	2,426,477	191,041,569	78·73
1900	2,569,958	197,079,956	76·68

The average tonnage for goods trains is, therefore, 72 tons, which is 4 tons higher than in New South Wales, the only other system with which a comparison can be made. The New South Wales figures, with the exception of those for the year 1900, are unsatisfactory, inasmuch as the goods mileage relates to the year ended 30th June, while the ton mileage is for the year ending 31st December following.. No figures can be quoted for 1899 :—

Year.	Goods mileage.	Ton mileage.	Average weight of train.
			tons.
1896	4,001,164	255,621,932	63·9
1897	4,244,385	273,460,624	64·4
1898	4,260,368	314,996,969	73·9
1900	4,610,343	320,364,852	69·5

The average for the period was 68 tons. The figures for New South Wales and for South Australia compare very favourably with the returns of the British railways, but are very far behind those of some of the great American lines, as the following figures show :—

British Railways, 1900.

Company.	Goods mileage.	Ton mileage.	Average weight of train.
			tons.
Lond. North-Western	22,668,940	1,311,000,000	57
Midland	27,270,791	1,377,000,000	50
Great Western	23,096,578	1,056,000,000	46
North-Eastern	17,565,768	1,055,000,000	60
Great Northern	12,027,759	534,000,000	44½
Lancashire and Yorkshire	6,681,695	450,000,000	67
Great Eastern	8,564,851	322,000,000	37½
Great Central.	8,328,351	360,000,000	43
Total	126,204,933	6,465,000,000	51

The New York Central shows to great advantage compared with the British lines ; the average weight of train for the years quoted was :—

	tons.
1894	249
1895	252
1896	268
1897	270
1898	299
1899	322

Rolling Stock.

The following table gives the different classes of rolling stock in the possession of the several Australasian Governments at the end of the year 1899-1900, and, considerable as are the numbers of each class, they could with advantage be largely increased in most of the colonies :—

State.	Engines.	Coaching Stock.	Goods Stock.
New South Wales	489	1,025	9,880
Victoria	522	1,436	9,317
Queensland	335	388	6,141
South Australia	347	407	6,154
Northern Territory	6	7	134
Western Australia	233	260	4,777
Tasmania	67	218	1,125
Commonwealth	1,999	3,741	37,528
New Zealand	304	577	10,295
Australasia	2,303	4,318	47,823

Railway Accidents.

The persons meeting with accidents on railway lines may be grouped under three heads—passengers, servants of the railways, and trespassers; and the accidents themselves might be classified into those arising from causes beyond the control of the person injured, and those due to misconduct or want of caution. The following table shows the number of persons killed and injured on the Government railways during 1899-1900 in those colonies for which returns are available :

State.	Passengers.		Railway Employés.		Trespassers, &c.		Total.	
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
New South Wales	5	44	18	181	13	30	36	255
Victoria	2	129	9	336	27	73	38	538
S. Australia	1	.	5	27	4	3	10	30
Northern Territory*	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
New Zealand	2	18	8	237	6	66	16	321

* No accidents.

The railways of Australasia have been as free from accidents of a serious character as the lines of most other countries. In order to obtain a common basis of comparison it is usual to find the proportion

which the number of persons killed or injured bears to the total passengers carried. There is, however, no necessary connection between the two, for it is obvious that accidents may occur on lines chiefly devoted to goods traffic, and a more reasonable basis would be the accidents to passengers only compared with the number of passengers carried. The data from which such a comparison could be made are wanting for some countries. As far as the figures can be given they are shown in the following table, which exhibits the number of passengers killed and injured per million carried. The figures are calculated over a period of ten years and brought down to the latest available dates:—

Country	Number of Passengers.		Average per million passengers carried	
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
Germany	470	1,906	0·1	0·4
Austria-Hungary	104	1,280	0·1	1·4
Belgium	127	1,209	0·1	1·3
Sweden	18	29	0·1	0·2
France	653	3,207	0·2	1·1
Norway	6	5	0·1	0·1
Holland	21	92	0·1	0·4
Switzerland	168	582	0·4	1·5
Russia	403	1,532	0·8	3·1
United Kingdom	1,173	14,280	0·1	1·6
Spain	140	858	0·6	3·4
Canada	145	700	1·1	5·1
New South Wales	74	444	0·3	2·1
Victoria	29	1,165	0·1	2·5
South Australia	13	24	0·2	0·4
New Zealand	30	170	1·0	4·2

New South Wales.

The progress of railway construction during the twenty years which followed the opening of the first line was very slow, for in 1875 the length of line in operation had only reached 435 miles. From 1876 to 1889, greater activity prevailed, no less than 1,748 miles being constructed during this period, but this rate of increase was not continued, inasmuch as only 14 miles were opened during the next three years. Subsequently there was renewed activity, and the length of line open to 30th June, 1900, was 2,811¼ miles, the amount expended thereon for construction and equipment being £38,477,269, or at the rate of £13,687 per mile.

The railways of the colony are divided into three branches, each representing a system of its own. The southern system, which is the most important, serving as it does the richest and most thick

populated districts, and placing Sydney, Melbourne, and Adelaide in direct communication, has several offshoots. From Culcairn, a line connects with Corowa on the Murray River; from Junee a branch extends as far as the town of Hay in one direction, and Finley in another, and places the important district of Riverina in direct communication with Sydney. From Cootamundra a line branches off in a southerly direction to Gundagai, and another in a north-westerly direction to Temora; while from Murrumburrah a line has been constructed to Blayney, on the western line, thus connecting the southern and western systems of the colony. Nearer the metropolis, the important town of Goulburn is connected with Cooma, bringing the rich pastoral district of Monaro into direct communication with Sydney. Another line that forms part of the southern system has been constructed to Nowra, connecting the metropolis with the coastal district of Illawarra, which is rich alike in coal and in the produce of agriculture. The western system of railways extends from Sydney over the Blue Mountains, and has its terminus at Bourke, a distance of 503 miles from the metropolis. Leaving the mountains, the western line, after throwing out a branch from Wallerawang to Mudgee, enters the Bathurst Plains, and connects with the metropolis the rich agricultural lands of the Bathurst, Orange, and Wellington districts. Beyond Dubbo it enters the pastoral country. At Blayney, as before stated, the western line is connected with the southern system by a branch line to Murrumburrah. At Orange a branch connects that town with Forbes on the Lachlan River, and from Parkes, one of the stations on the trunk line, an extension to Condobolin on the Lachlan River has been constructed. Further west, on the main line at Nevertire, a short line extends to the town of Warren, and at Nyngan a branch line connects the important mining district of Cobar with Sydney. The western system also includes a short line from Blacktown to Richmond on the Hawkesbury River, and branch lines are in course of construction from Dubbo to Coonamble, and from Byrock to Brewarrina. The northern system originally commenced at Newcastle, but a connecting line has been constructed, making Sydney the head of the whole of the railway systems of the colony. This connecting line permits of direct communication between Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, and Brisbane, a distance from end to end of 1,808 miles, or altogether between the terminus of Oodnadatta, in South Australia, and Cunnamulla, in Queensland, there is one continuous line of railway, 3,100 miles in length. The northern system comprises a branch from Werris Creek to Gravesend, which is now being extended to Inverell, thus placing the Namoi and Gwydir districts in direct communication with the ports of Newcastle and Sydney. A portion of the North Coast railway has also been constructed from Murwillumbah, on the Tweed River, to Casino on the Richmond River. A short line branches off the main northern line at Hornsby, and connects with the north shore of Port Jackson at Milson's Point.

[illegible] control of the railways was vested [illegible] management being undertaken [illegible] Commissioner. It was, however, rec[illegible] entered unduly into the management [illegible] as a consequence, the "Government Ra[illegible] [illegible], with the object of removing the contr[illegible] railways from the political arena, and vesting [illegible] Commissioners, who were required to prepare fo[illegible] [illegible] an annual report of their proceedings, [illegible] received and expended during the preceding [illegible] of state railway construction has been [illegible] from consideration of the profitable work[illegible] has been kept in view that in the ma[illegible] supporting. It will be seen, from the subse[illegible] management, despite the fact that the [illegible] number of unprofitable lines, have succeed[illegible] the colony in a satisfactory financial positi[illegible]

Revenue and Working Expenses

[illegible] available to meet interest charges during the [illegible] set forth in the following table, and the returns [illegible] Commissioners have achieved most important results du[illegible] administration, and may reasonably claim to have a[illegible] almost self-supporting, as there is only a matte[illegible] between the net earnings and the interest charge.

[illegible]	Gross Earnings.	Working Expenses.	Net Earnings.	Proportion of Working Expenses to Gross Earnings.
	£	£	£	Per cent.
[illegible]	[illegible]	1,831,371	1,143,050	61.77
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1,103,044	61.60
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	59.39
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	56.58
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	54.46
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	55.02
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	53.11
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	53.34
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	53.75
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	55.93

[illegible] of the economi[illegible] management, inasm[illegible] June, 1900, w[illegible] per cent. wh[illegible] [illegible] in the [illegible]

of the table, are a considerable improvement on those shown for first year. The financial depression of 1893, which brought about a iderable change in the character of the coaching traffic, and the inued unfavourable character of the seasons, greatly affected the ings of several years; the fall in earnings, however, was met by a ction in working expenses, so that the financial result of the way management was not greatly affected. The year 1900 compares ewhat unfavourably with the three years immediately preceding. is due to the fact that, notwithstanding a much larger tonnage ied, the merchandise and live stock traffic show a decrease in freight ed, clearly indicating that the traffic from these sources has been ied at less profitable rates than hitherto. The traffic in wool and also showed a large falling off, and it appears very probable that g to the serious droughts of the past years and the consequent mous loss of sheep, no material increase in this traffic may be cted in the immediate future. The outlook with regard to grain agricultural products, mineral and general traffic, is more encourag- than it has been for years, and it is anticipated that the revenue be maintained. No reduction in the percentage of expenditure to ings is practicable, inasmuch as the Commissioners will have to ide for concessions in connection with the carriage of starving t, and for the renewal of a number of old engines and the carrying of extensive repairs on others, as well as for the replacing of a large ge of iron rails on the main northern line by steel. The proportion working expenses to earnings is less in New South Wales than in other part of Australia, as the following figures, which are the ge of the five years 1896–1900, will show:—

New South Wales	54·23
Victoria	63·30
Queensland	59·14
South Australia	59·01
Western Australia	65·86
Tasmania	78·15
New Zealand	63·04

Interest returned on Capital.

establishing the financial results of the working of the lines it is practice of railway authorities to compare the net returns with nominal rate of interest payable on the railway loans or on the c debt of the colony. An accurate comparison can only be made by g the average rate of interest payable on the actual sum obtained e State for its outstanding loans. On this basis, the lines of olony have met the interest on construction and equipment during years only, viz., 1881, 1882, 1883, and 1899. In 1899 the lines

yielded a net sum of £19,000 after paying working expenses, interest, and all charges, and 1900 only fell short of this desirable condition by £51,000. The following table, covering a term of ten years, indicates the average loss for each year during the period:

Year.	Interest returned on Capital.	Actual Rate of Interest payable on Outstanding Loans	Average Loss.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
1891	3·60	3·81	0·21
1892	3·58	3·82	0·24
1893	3·48	3·96	0·48
1894	3·46	3·97	0·51
1895	3·58	3·94	0·36
1896	3·44	3·86	0·42
1897	3·78	3·81	0·03
1898	3·74	3·79	0·05
1899	3·83	3·78	*0·05
1900	3·62	3·76	0·14

* Average gain.

A factor in the fluctuation of the profits is found in the extension of the lines in sparsely populated districts; but with the adoption of a more prudent policy in the matter of construction largely dictated by the severe financial pressure to which the colony has been subjected and with careful working, the returns are showing improvement. As showing the handicap against which the railway management has to struggle, it is worth noting that there are sixteen branch lines on which about eleven millions and a half sterling have been expended which do not pay their way, the loss on these lines being about £250,000 per annum.

Earnings and Expenses per Mile

Two important facts which demonstrate the financial position of the railways and the character of the management are the earnings per train mile and per average mile open. Although the returns now being realised cannot be compared with those of 1875, when the net earnings per train mile fell little short of 52d., and per mile open of £775, the present earnings are in every way encouraging. Under the control of the Commissioners the net return per train mile has increased from 27·4d. to 37·6d., or 37·2 per cent., while per mile of line open for traf-

dvance has been from £374 to £508, or 35·8 per cent. The gross ngs, expenditure, and net earnings per train mile for the past ten are shown in the following table :—

Year.	Gross Earnings per average mile open.	Expenditure per train mile.	Net Earnings per train mile.
	d.	d.	d.
1891	84·88	52 26	32 62
1892	89·25	54 98	34 27
1893	93 60	55 59	38 01
1894	94·18	53 29	40 89
1895	90 96	49·54	41·42
1896	87 68	48 24	39·44
1897	88 99	47 26	41 73
1898	87 10	46·46	40 64
1899	85 72	46 07	39 65
1900	85 36	47·75	37·61

e gross earnings, expenditure, and net earnings per average mile for the past ten years, were as follow :

Year	Gross Earnings per train mile	Expenditure per average mile open.	Net Earnings per average mile open.
	£	£	£
1891	1 363	839	524
1892	1,423	877	546
1893	1,264	750	514
1894	1,159	656	503
1895	1,144	623	521
1896	1,114	613	501
1897	1,171	622	549
1898	1,138	607	531
1899	1,163	625	538
1900	1,153	645	508

many cases the railways of the colony pass through heavy and ainous country, involving steep gradients. For the more expedi- and economical working of the traffic, important deviations have and are being carried out to secure better grades and to ease the . While much has been done in this direction, much more ns to be done, as many of the lines have been constructed with usual proportion of steep gradients, of which the worst are on unk lines, and are so situated that the whole of the traffic must over them. In the southern system, the line at Cooma reaches an ht of 2,659 feet above the sea level; in the western, at the ace station, Blue Mountains, a height of 3,658 feet is attained;

while on the northern line the highest point, 4,471 feet, is reached at Ben Lomond. In no other colony of Australasia do the lines attain such an altitude. In Queensland the maximum height is 3,008 feet; in Victoria, 2,452 feet; in South Australia, 2,024 feet; in Western Australia, 1,522 feet; and in New Zealand, 1,252 feet. Where heavy gradients prevail, the working expenditure must necessarily be heavier than in the colonies where the surface configuration is more level.

Coaching and Goods Traffic.

The following table shows the number of passengers carried on the lines of the colony during the year 1881, and for the last ten years, together with the receipts from the traffic, and the average receipts per journey:—

Year	Passengers carried	Receipts from Coaching Traffic	Average Receipts per journey
	No.	£	d.
1881	6,907,312	488,675	16·97
1891	19,037,760	1,177,037	14·84
1892	19,918,916	1,189,231	14·33
1893	19,932,703	1,115,042	13·43
1894	19,265,732	1,047,029	13·04
1895	19,725,418	1,022,901	12·45
1896	21,006,048	1,043,922	11·93
1897	22,672,924	1,098,696	11·63
1898	23,233,206	1,126,257	11·63
1899	24,726,067	1,158,198	11·22
1900	26,486,873	1,227,355	11·12

It will be seen that the years 1896 to 1900 show far larger numbers of passenger journeys than preceding years, but less satisfactory results in the way of average receipts per journey. This does not so much arise from curtailment of long-distance travelling as from the change of a large body of travellers from first to second class—a result due to diminished means, and doubtless to some extent to the more comfortable [illegible] now provided for second-class passengers. A return to pre-[illegible] ones should show an increase in first-class travellers, but a [illegible] per train mile happens that the removal of the original impelling cause is [illegible] present earnings return to previous habits, so that the railways may [illegible] the Commissioner over the revenue lost by the change on the part of [illegible] 27·4d to 37·6d, or

The amount of goods tonnage from 1881 to 1900 is shown in the following table :

Year	Tonnage of Goods and Live Stock.	Earnings
	tons.	£
1881	2,033,850	955,551
1891	3,802,849	1,797,384
1892	4,296,713	1,918,065
1893	3,773,843	1,812 014
1894	3,403,919	1,766,512
1895	4,075,093	1,855,303
1896	3,953,575	1,776,496
1897	4,567,041	1,916,046
1898	4,630,564	1,900,491
1899	5,248,320	1,987 075
1900	5,531,511	1,936,217

The subdivision of the tonnage of goods and live stock for the year ded 30th June, 1900, into a general classification is set forth in the joined statement. Particulars of the tonnage are given under nine ad classes, while the table also shows the average distance goods each class were carried, and the average earnings per ton per mile he last figure, however, does not include the terminal charges, which uld probably increase the revenue per ton per mile by about 0·20d., om 1·26d. to 1 46d. The "miscellaneous" traffic comprises timber, k, agricultural and vegetable seeds, in 5-ton lots ; firewood, in 5 ton s, bricks, drain pipes, and various other goods. "A" and "B" sses consist of lime, fruit, vegetables, hides, tobacco leaf, lead and er ore, caustic soda and potash, cement, copper ingots, fat and tallow, ing machinery, ore tailings, leather, agricultural implements in 5 ton s ; and various other goods.

Description of Traffic.	Tons carried.	Average number of miles each ton of traffic is carried.	Earnings per ton per mile
		miles.	d.
Coal, coke, and shale	3,406,769	15·93	0 60
Firewood	204,820	28 95	0 79
Grain, flour, &c	361,052	169 95	0 56
Hay, straw, and chaff	118,631	176 39	0 34
Miscellaneous	525,503	70·07	0 67
Wool	84,678	247 30	2 33
Live stock	188,595	243 88	1 54
"A" and "B" classes	354,908	95 99	1 33
All other goods	280,555	139 78	3 34
	5,531,511	57 92	1 26
Terminal charges			0 20
Total	5,531,511	57 92	1 46

The charge for carrying goods one mile along the lines of the colony in 1872 was 3·6d per ton, while after an interval of twenty-eight years, it has fallen to 1·46d. The decrease, however, is to some extent more apparent than real, inasmuch as it represents a more extensive development of the mineral traffic than of the carriage of general merchandise; but, when due allowance has been made on this score, it will be found that the benefit to the general producer and consumer has been very substantial, and it may safely be taken as indicating generally the lessened cost of carriage to persons forwarding goods by rail.

Victoria.

Railway operations in Victoria began with the opening of the line from Flinders-street, Melbourne, to Port Melbourne. In the early years the lines constructed were chiefly in the vicinity of the metropolis, and up to the year 1865, that is in ten years, only 274 miles were laid down; during the next decennial period a farther length of 312 miles was constructed. As in the case of other colonies, more energy was manifested during the decade ended 1885, when no less than 1,092 miles were constructed; during the next ten years the rate of progress was maintained, and a further length of 1,444 miles was opened. The length of line open for traffic on 30th June, 1900, was 3,218 miles, upon which the sum of £59,658,819 has been expended for construction and equipment, or an average of £12,324 per mile.

The railways of the colony are grouped under seven systems—the Northern, North-Eastern, Eastern, South-Eastern, North-Western, South-Western, and Suburban lines. The Northern system extends from Melbourne to Echuca, the North-Eastern stretches from Kensington to Wodonga, and is the main line connecting Melbourne with Sydney, the Eastern connects Prince's Bridge, Melbourne, with Burnside; the South-Eastern runs from Lyndhurst to Port Albert, the North-Western, joining Laverton with Serviceton, is the main line connecting Melbourne with Adelaide; the South Western runs from Breakwater to Port Fairy, and the suburban system makes provision for the requirements of the population within a distance of about twenty miles from the metropolis. Included in the seven systems are no less than eighty-five main, branch, and connecting lines. With the exception of the eastern and extreme north-western portions of the colony, where settlement is sparse, the railway facilities provided are in advance of those of any other colony, in so far as the length of the line open for traffic is concerned.

Victoria, in 1883, was the first colony of the group to adopt the system of placing the management and maintenance of the railways under the control of three Commissioners. From the 1st February, 1884, to the end of 1891 the construction as well as the working of the lines was vested in this body; but on the 1st January, 1892, the duty

of construction was transferred to the Board of Land and Works under the provisions of the "Railways Act, 1891." During 1896 the number of commissioners was reduced to one.

Revenue and Working Expenses.

The net earnings, that is the sum available to meet interest charges during the last decennial period, are shown in the following table:—

Year	Gross Earnings.	Working Expenses.	Net Earnings.	Proportion of Working Expenses to Gross Earnings.
	£	£	£	per cent.
1891	3,208,567	2,310,645	987,922	70·05
1892	3,095,122	2,138,139	956,983	69·08
1893	2,925,948	1,850,291	1,075,657	63 30
1894	2,726,159	1,635,419	1,090,740	59 99
1895	2,581,591	1,543,393	1,038,198	59 77
1896	2,401,392	1,546,475	854 917	64 39
1897	2,615 935	1,563,805	1,052,130	59 77
1898	2,608 896	1,646,054	962,842	66 92
1899	2,873,729	1,797,726	1,076,003	62 55
1900	3,025,162	1,902,540	1,122,622	62·89

It will be observed that the gross earnings for the opening year of the decade are larger than those of the year just closed, but the net earnings for 1900 show a decided improvement over those of the year 1891, while the proportion of working expenses to gross earnings was also considerably larger during the last-mentioned year. The intervening years show similar fluctuations to those of the other colonies comprised within the Commonwealth, due to a variety of causes, among the principal of which are—the financial crisis, the drought that has so formly affected the whole of Australasia for some years past, and the fact that Victoria adopted the construction of a number of branch "cockspur" lines, which had to be worked at absolute loss. In many instances the lines did not even pay working expenses, apart from interest. Continued losses resulted in the closing to traffic of some of these lines during 1896 and subsequent years, and the Report for the year ended 30th June, 1900, shows that the interest charges debited to the Department in connection with them, and the expenditure on general surveys of lines which have not been completed, amounts to about £27,000 per annum, while the average loss per annum on non-paying lines is over £301,000. The net revenue shows a gradual tendency to improvement during the last five years, the fall in 1898 in comparison with the previous year being due to the fact that in 1897 the receipts were swollen by the exceptional traffic occasioned by the Jubilee celebrations. In 1898 additional expenditure, arising from increases of pay to the lower-grade employees, and from improvements

and renewals of permanent way works and rolling stock caused a large inflation in working expenses. The proportion of working expenses to gross earnings shows a decided improvement: and notwithstanding extensive renewals of way, repairs and renewals of stock, and the extra price paid for coal under new contracts now stands much lower than it did at the commencement of the decennial period, and is unmistakably indicative of greater economy in the management of this large State asset.

Interest returned on Capital.

Continuing the basis adopted in the case of New South Wales of taking into consideration the absolute interest paid on the loans of the colony and comparing this with the net earnings, the following table furnishes a review for the past ten years, and shows the average loss for each year of the period

Year.	Interest returned on Capital	Actual Rate of Interest payable on Outstanding Loans	Average Loss.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
1891	2·71	4·00	1·29
1892	2·58	3·99	1·41
1893	2·87	4·02	1·15
1894	2·88	4·04	1·16
1895	2·73	4·02	1·29
1896	2·24	4·08	1·84
1897	2·74	4·00	1·26
1898	2·49	3·99	1·50
1899	2·75	3·95	1·20
1900	2·83	3·95	1·12

The earning power of the Victorian lines is largely impeded by the necessity of working fifty-five of the lines upon which there is an annual loss of £301,000. The fluctuations in net profits are due to the opening of new lines in sparsely settled districts and the effect of the drought upon the traffic. A gradual improvement is, however, manifest in the returns of the past five years, and the concluding year shows a substantial increase over the opening one of the period

Earnings and Expenses per Mile

While the present returns bear no comparison with those of 1872 when the net earnings per train mile were 73·29d. and per mile open £1,342, they show a decided improvement per train mile on the figures for 1891, although the net earnings per mile open are lower than those

a for that year. The gross earnings, expenditure, and net ings per train mile for the past ten years are set forth in the ring table :—

Year	Gross Earnings per train mile	Expenditure per train mile.	Net Earnings per train mile.
	d.	d.	d.
1891	64·63	45 27	19 36
1892	62 91	43 46	19 45
1893	65 17	41 21	23 96
1894	64 49	38 69	25 80
1895	64 76	38 72	26·04
1896	64 11	41 29	22 82
1897	68·03	40 67	27 36
1898	67 77	42 76	25 01
1899	71·00	44 41	26 59
1900	71·83	45 17	26 66

e gross earnings, expenditure, and net earnings per average mile for the past ten years were as follow :

Year	Gross Earnings per average mile open.	Expenditure per average mile open	Net Earnings per average mile open
	£	£	£
1891	1,245	872	373
1892	1,094	756	338
1893	998	631	367
1894	914	548	366
1895	837	500	337
1896	769	495	274
1897	837	509	337
1898	835	527	308
1899	920	576	344
1900	949	597	352

e tables indicate that while the gross earnings are gradually ving, the strictest economy will be necessary in the matter of diture, for the improvement in the revenue has so far been almost y neutralized by an increase in the working expenses, and the net gs per train mile are little better than those for 1895.

Coaching and Goods Traffic.

e following table shows the number of passengers carried on the of the colony during the year 1881, and for each of the last ten

amount of goods and live stock tonnage in 1881, and for each ten years from 1891 to 1900, is shown in the following table :—

Year.	Tonnage of Goods and Live Stock.	Earnings.
	Tons.	£
1881	1,366,603	894,592
1891	3,962,127	1,501,764
1892	2,720,886	1,450,807
1893	2,508,378	1,417,081
1894	2,455,811	1,306,484
1895	2,435,857	1,321,982
1896	2,163,722	1,137,173
1897	2,583,445	1,287,248
1898	2,408,665	1,283,834
1899	2,779,748	1,401,729
1900	2,998,303	1,555,252

table indicates a gradual increase in the tonnage carried and gs therefrom during the last five years. The figures for 1900 be considered highly satisfactory, especially when it is remembered that the harvest conditions generally were not so good, and substantial reductions in rates had been made during the year. culars of the subdivision of the tonnage of goods and live stock general classification are not available, and no information is ished that will admit of a comparison being made in order to mine how far the cost of carriage per mile has been reduced g the period under review.

QUEENSLAND.

progress of railway construction in Queensland for the first ten after the opening of the Ipswich to Grandchester line was somewhat slow, only 208 miles having been constructed. In the decade g in 1885, more energy was displayed, inasmuch as a further length 67¼ miles was constructed, and during the quinquennial periods g in 1890 and 1895, further lengths of 712 and 2-0 miles were con ed. The length of line open on 30th June, 1900, was 2,801 miles, he amount expended thereon for construction and equipment was 20,902, or at the rate of £6,897 per mile.

railways of the Colony may be grouped into three divisions, comg eight systems. The southern division extends from Brisbane to ngarra in a southerly direction, to Cunnamulla in a westerly ion, and to Gladstone northerly along the coast, and has fifteen lines connected with it. The central division extends from Park to Longreach, and has five branch lines connected with it. northern division comprises the line from Mackay to Eton and , the line from Bowen to Wangaratta, the line from Townsville

e foregoing table shows a gradual tendency for earnings to increase, ially of late years, but there have been considerable fluctuations e proportion of working expenses to gross earnings. The net gs for the year ended 30th June, 1900, were 35·22 per cent. e total earnings, as against 36·33 per cent. when the railways placed under their present control. It will be observed that the secured for the past year is considerably lower than those of the ding two years, and is due to the fact that the railways have been alled to carry very large numbers of starving stock and large ities of fodder at unremunerative rates. There were also heavy rsements to replace and increase the stock of locomotives, and rying out works which, though improving the equipment of the ays and ensuring safe running, have not been of a reproductive ter, while during the year substantial increases in pay have been ded to all classes of railway employees. There was consequently ge increase in expenditure which was not accompanied by a cor-nding improvement in the earnings, but there can be no doubt these changes will have a beneficial effect on the receipts of future

Interest returned on Capital.

e financial results of the working of the lines are exhibited in the ving table which covers a period of ten years :

Year.	Interest returned on Capital.	Actual Rate of Interest payable on Outstanding Loans.	Average Loss.
	per cent.	per cent	per cent.
1891 . . .	1·74	4·05	2 31
1892	2 57	3 93	1·36
1893	2 37	4·18	1·81
1894	2·18	4·17	1·99
1895	2·68	4·12	1·44
1896	2·63	4·03	1·40
1897	2·87	4·03	1·16
1898	2·92	4·03	1·11
1899	3 15	4·03	0 88
1900	2·67	4·01	1·34

[illegible] railway construction of recent ye[illegible] [illegible] character, and it is manife[illegible] [illegible] remunerative cannot be looked for imme[illegible] [illegible] scattered and limited popu[illegible] [illegible] these lines will ultimately pay [illegible] fortunately, Queensland like all th[illegible] [illegible] construction of lines of railway not wa[illegible] [illegible] traffic, and which will always be a h[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] Expenses per Mile.

[illegible] compared with t[illegible] [illegible] were a little over 43 [illegible] congratulation on a re[illegible] [illegible] subjoined tables. [illegible] per train mile, as well as t[illegible] [illegible] been fairly well sus[illegible] [illegible] previous three years, [illegible] drought and the cons[illegible] [illegible] revenue from the c[illegible] [illegible] was obtained co[illegible] [illegible] and the carri[illegible] [illegible] traffic which had [illegible] The gross earnings, expend[illegible] [illegible] ten years are shown [illegible]

[illegible]	Expenditure per train mile.	Net Earnings per train mile.

gross earnings, expenditure, and net earnings per average mile for the past ten years were as follow :—

Year	Gross Earnings per average mile open	Expenditure per average mile open	Net Earnings per average mile open
	£	£	£
1891	424	301	123
1892	458	278	180
1893	428	268	160
1894	402	252	150
1895	431	245	186
1896	455	270	185
1897	486	282	204
1898	470	265	205
1899	506	289	217
1900	523	339	184

Coaching and Goods Traffic.

he number of passengers carried on the lines of the colony during year 1881, and for the last ten years, together with the receipts n the traffic, and the average receipts per journey, are set forth in following table :—

Year	Passengers carried	Receipts from Coaching traffic.	Average Receipts per Journey
	No.	£	d
1881	247,284	113,490	110 14
1891	2,730,860	337,272	29 64
1892	2,370,219	348,199	35 25
1893	2,120,163	318,730	36 08
1894	2,024,450	307,430	36 44
1895	2,054,416	308,025	35 98
1896	2,274,210	324,790	34 27
1897	2,633,556	350,811	32 79
1898	2,742,108	391,270	34 24
1899	3,716,425	447,123	28 87
1900	4,395,841	505,536	27 60

ill be seen that the years 1899 and 1900 show a far larger number passenger journeys than preceding years ; this was largely due to an raordinary expansion in the suburban passenger traffic. The average ipts per journey showed a decline, which may be expected to con e as the suburban traffic expands, so that in a few years the receipts person carried will approximate closely to the average for the rest Australia, viz., one shilling per journey

[illegible] tonnage for a similar period is shown [illegible]

[illegible]	Tonnage of Goods	Earnings
		£
[illegible]	161,008	235,100
[illegible]	890,973	571,432
[illegible]	768,527	704,337
[illegible]	720,587	703,947
[illegible]	785,475	648,317
[illegible]	900,591	717,487
[illegible]	1,028,889	760,704
[illegible]	1,243,603	819,462
[illegible]	1,323,782	824,541
[illegible]	1,684,858	926,352
[illegible]	1,688,635	958,863

[illegible] foregoing statement the tonnage of live stock is not incl[illegible] [illegible] particulars in respect thereof are not available [illegible] [illegible] include the revenue derived from this class of t[illegible] [illegible] traffic is divided into eight classes, particulars of w[illegible] [illegible] ended 30th June, 1900, together with the receipts for [illegible] [illegible] shown in the subjoined table. No information is ava[illegible] [illegible] average number of miles each ton of traffic is carried o[illegible] [illegible] per mile.

Description of Traffic	Tons carried	Receipts from traffic
		£
[illegible]	[illegible]	388,231
[illegible]	[illegible]	119,404
[illegible]	[illegible]	111,256
[illegible]	[illegible]	53,512
[illegible]	[illegible]	20,701
[illegible]	[illegible]	89,949
[illegible]		167,153
[illegible]		8,637
[illegible]	[illegible]	958,863

Guaranteed Railways.

Four railways, having a total length of 28 miles 34 chains, have been constructed to 30th June, 1900, under "The Railways Guarantee Act of 1895," by which the local authority, representing the ratepayers of a district, agrees to pay up to one-half of the deficiency in working expenses with interest during the first fourteen years after opening, the sum to be raised by means of a rate not exceeding 3d. in the £ of value of ratable lands. Should the operations of any year provide a surplus, half of this is retained by the Government and the other half paid to the Local Authority for distribution among the ratepayers in return for the payments made on account of the deficiency in previous years. When the line has been payable for three years, the Government may cancel the agreement. The results of the working of three out of the four railways do not afford much encouragement to apply the provisions of the Act to other lines which may be projected in the future. The working of the Pialba branch showed a loss for the years 1898 and 1899 of £2,366 and £2,038 respectively, and for 1900 of £1,589; as the interest payable amounted to £1,762, there would appear to have been an excess of earnings over working expenses during 1900 to the extent of £173. As this line has shown an improvement each succeeding year, it may be reasonably anticipated that eventually the guarantors will be relieved of all responsibility. The Allora branch shows a loss of £630 for the year 1900, being considerably in excess of the deficit of the previous two years, when the shortage was £146 and £308 respectively. The Ennogera branch exhibits a loss of £3,165 for the year ended 1900, as against £1,138 for the five months during which it was open for traffic in the previous year. The Mount Morgan branch which up to the 30th June, 1899 yielded a net profit of £4,080, after providing for working expenses and interest on the cost of construction, returned a net profit of £5,785 for the year 1900.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

While the beginning of railway construction in South Australia dates as far back as 1854, very little progress was made in the subsequent twenty years, and in 1874 the total length of line in operation was only 234 miles; in 1880 this was increased to 627 miles, in 1890 to 1,610 miles; and in 1895 to 1,722 miles. The length of line in use on 30th June, 1900 was 1,736¼ miles, and the amount expended thereon for construction and equipment, £13,014,425, or at the rate of £7,496 per mile.

The railways of South Australia proper for the purposes of management are divided into five systems. The Midland system, constructed on the 5ft. 3in. gauge, has a length of 236¾ miles, and extends from Adelaide to Terowie in a northerly direction, and to Morgan, on the

The amount of goods tonnage for
following table :—

Year.	T
1881 .	
1891	
1892	
1893	
1894 . . .	
1895 . .	
1896 . .	
1897 . .	
1898 . . .	
1899 . .	
1900 .	

In the foregoing statement th
inasmuch as particulars in r
earnings shown include the re
The general traffic is divided
for the year ended 30th June
class, are shown in the subjo
as to the average number of
earnings per ton per mile

Description of Traffic	
General merchandise	
Agricultural prod	
Wool	
Coal	
Minerals other	
Timber	
Live stock	
Other prod	

th Australian, and years of shrinkage in
s years of harvest failure. The increase
e last two years was due to the renewal
of portion of the permanent way, and
on the improved revenue. The results
s satisfactory, having regard to the fact
dened with some very unproductive lines,
Springs to Oodnadatta, which barely pays
s an annual payment of about £44,000 in

Returned on Capital.

lots the financial results of the working of
years —

Interest returned on Capital.	Actual rate of Interest payable on Outstanding Loans.	Average Loss.
per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
5·32	4·08	1·24*
4·78	4·08	0·70*
3·07	4·28	1·21
3·54	4·27	0·73
3·12	4·22	1·10
3·21	4·12	0·91
3·26	4·05	0·79
2·98	4·03	1·05
3·42	3·95	0·53
3·91	3·87	0·04*

* Represents profit.

rved that the interest returned on capital during the
e best secured since 1892, and exceeded by a slight
rest rate on the debt of the province. South Australia
dvantage not shared by any other province, namely, a
ly long distance traffic from a neighbouring state. The
affic is a very important factor to the state railways, as
tion of the line connecting the mines with the sea ports
South Australian territory. The extent of the Broken
ill be found mentioned on page 682.

Earnings and Expenses per Mile.

The net earnings now secured are very much below those of 1
when the net earnings per train mile were 38·64d., and £370 per n
open ; a gradual improvement is, however, noticeable during recent ye
The gross earnings, expenditure, and net earnings per train mile for
past ten years are shown in the following table : -

Year	Gross Earnings per train mile.	Expenditure per train mile.	Net Earnings per train mile.
	d.	d.	d.
1891.	77·94	39·30	38·64
1892.....	69·69	37·50	32·19
1893.....	65·85	41·86	23·99
1894	69·14	39·39	29·75
1895.	67·90	40·24	27·66
1896.....	68·57	40·53	28·04
1897.....	66·95	40·12	26·83
1898	63·57	[illegible]	24·59
1899.....	65·14	[illegible]	27·14
1900.....	67·02	37·78	29·24

The gross earnings, expenditure, and net earnings per average n
open for the past ten years are set forth in the following table —

Year.	Gross Earnings per average mile open.	Expenditure per average mile open.	Net Earnings per average mile open.
	£	£	£
1891	747	377	370
1892	730	393	337
1893..... ...	606	385	221
1894.....	601	342	259
1895.	558	331	227
1896.....	573	339	234
1897..	595	[illegible]	239
1898.....	571	350	221
1899.....	614	358	256
1900..	674	380	294

will be seen that there was a substantial fall in the net earnings train mile for 1893. An improvement was, however, manifest in ucceeding year, for while the gross revenue was smaller than that 93, the proportion of working expenses was considerably reduced results for the past year may be viewed as satisfactory from the of management, taking into consideration the fact that the mum number of train miles run for the decennial period occurred g the past year. The present earnings per train mile are well e the average of the Commonwealth as a whole, although the n per mile of line does not compare so favourably.

Coaching and Goods Traffic.

e following table shows the number of passengers carried on the of the Colony during the year 1881, and for each of the last ten together with the receipts from the traffic, and the average pts per journey :—

Year.	Passengers carried	Receipts from Coaching Traffic	Average Receipts per Journey
	No.	£	d.
1881	3,032,714	151,867	12·01
1891	5,295,991	333,772	12·31
1892	5,744,487	336,501	14·05
1893	5,434,047	298,128	13·21
1894	5,260,079	274,243	12·51
1895	5,224,854	263,448	12·09
1896	5,435,056	288,594	12·73
1897	5,789,297	297,026	12·31
1898	6,050,189	291,411	11·56
1899	6,171,081	297,207	11·56
1900	7,416,506	337,723	10·93

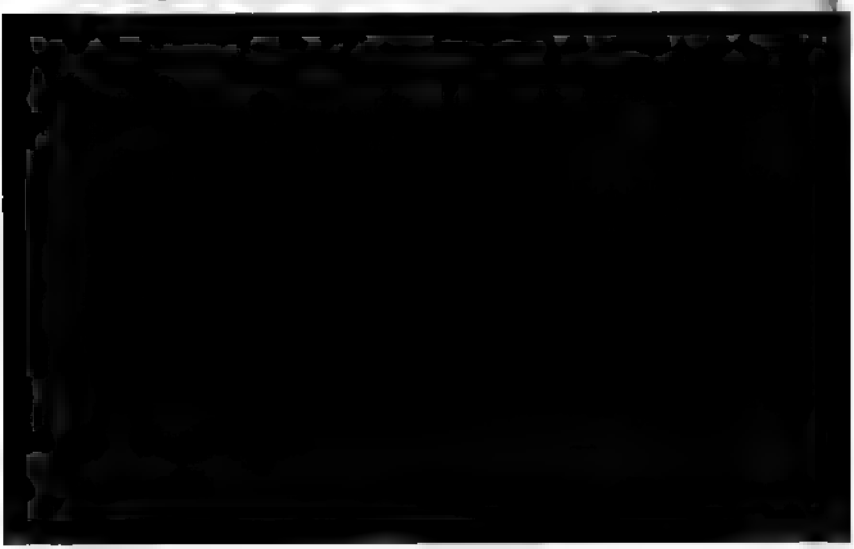
e table indicates an improvement each year in the number of ngers carried : the average receipts per journey have, however, ally lessened—the year 1892 showing the highest rate. The figures 91 and 1892 are somewhat lower than the true average for those in consequence of travellers over several systems being counted tinct persons on each system passed over.

The amount of goods tonnage for the same period is shown in the following table :—

Year	Tonnage of Goods and Live Stock.	Earnings.
	No.	£
1891	646,625	222,184
1892	1,427,123	842,089
1893	1,337,859	827,857
1895	970,805	660,371
1896	1,014,010	694,724
1897	1,000,408	666,600
1898	1,056,963	670,961
1899	1,146,293	700,269
1900	1,189,095	604,348
1899	1,403,727	731,156
1900	1,485,976	798,231

The falling off in the tonnage of goods carried in some years since 1892 is more apparent than real. Prior to 1893 the railway statistics for each section were kept distinct from those of other sections, and goods passing over more than one section were counted as additional tonnage on each section. The volume of traffic secured by South Australia from the Eastern District of New South Wales amounted to 647,069 tons out of the total of 1,485,976 tons, and the total receipts from all traffic passing through Cockburn, to £450,019 out of a total revenue of £1,166,987.

The following table shows a classification of the goods carried during 1900, and the amount received for carriage. It would have been interesting to have also shown the charge for haulage of each description of goods during the last ten years, but no information is available which would enable such particulars to be compiled. There has been a general reduction in freight charges, and the average charge per ton per mile for all goods has fallen from 1·05d. in 1897 to 0·97d. in 1900 :—



Revenue and Working Expenses.

gross earnings, expenditure, and net earnings, with the proportion king expenses to gross earnings of the line are set forth in the ng table, which covers a period of ten years —

Year	Gross Earnings	Working Expenses	Net Earnings	Proportion of Working Expenses to Gross Earnings
	£	£	£	per cent
. . ..	15,310	13,910	1,400	90 86
...	15,221	11,665	3 556	76 64
.....	15,668	11,704	3,964	74 90
.	16,193	11,493	4,700	70 42
..	14,722	11,477	3,245	77 96
.... .	15,105	15,289	(—) 184	101 22
.	17,908	18,966	( ) 1 058	105 91
. . .	14,124	20,268	(–) 6,144	143 50
..	14,758	17,375	(—) 2,617	117 73
.	14,799	24,340	(—) 9,541	164 47

( ) Denotes loss.

experience of the past five years offers no encouragement to any e extension of railways in the Northern Territory. The actual of working have not been quite so unfavourable as would appear he foregoing table, as the year 1900 was charged with the payment nstalment of £10,000 towards the reconstruction of the jetty ged in 1896, as narrated on the next page, and on this account a larger deficit than any of the previous years.

Interest returned on Capital.

following table shows the average loss for each year during the n years, after the interest on cost of construction has been deducted he net earnings :—

Year	Interest returned on Capital	Actual Rate of Interest payable on Outstanding Loans	Average Loss.
	per cent	per cent	per cent
1891	0 12	4 08	3 96
1892 . ..	0 31	4 08	3 77
1893 .	0 34	4·08	3 74
1894 .	0 42	4·08	3·66
1895 .	0 28	4 22	3 94
1896 .. .	(—) 0 02	4·12	4 14
1897 .	( ) 0·09	4 05	4 14
1898 .	(–) 0 53	4 03	4 56
1899 .	( ) 0 22	3 95	4·17
1900	(—) 0 82	4 09	4 91

( ) Denotes loss.

From the outset there was very little prospect that the traffic o line would meet the interest on the cost of construction and equip and although for the first five years there was a margin after p working expenses, the results of the past five years show that working expenses have not been met. The deficiency is in part d heavy expenditure necessitated by the ravages of the teredo in the structure of the jetty at Palmerston, and by the terrific cyclone w struck Port Darwin in the early part of 1897. Fluctuations a volume of traffic assist the deficiency created by the expenditure referred to.

Earnings and Expenses per Mile.

The gross earnings, expenditure, and net earnings per train mil a period of ten years are shown in the following table —

Year	Gross Earnings per Train Mile	Expenditure per Train Mile	Net Earnings per Train Mile
	d.	d.	d.
1891	116·76	106·08	10·68
1892	117·46	90·02	27·44
1893	121·93	91·08	30·85
1894	125·14	88·12	37·02
1895	115·10	89·73	25·37
1896	114·28	115·67	(—) 1·39
1897	137·28	145·38	(—) 8·10
1898	112·97	102·12	( ) 49·15
1899	145·53	136·02	(—) 20·49
1900	114·53	188·37	(—) 73·84

(—) Denotes loss.

The gross earnings, expenditure, and net earnings per average open for the last decennial period were as follow —

Year	Gross Earnings per average mile open.	Expenditure per average mile open.	Net Earnings per average mile open.
	£	£	£
1891	105	95	10
1892	104	80	24
1893	108	80	28
1894	111	78	33
1895	101	79	22
1896	104	105	(—) 1
1897	123	130	( ) 7
1898	97	139	( ) 42
1899	102	119	(—) 17
1900	102	167	( ) 65

( ) Denotes loss.

he gross earnings show little variation from year to year, but the nditure was increased through the series of accidents at the terminal to which reference has already been made.

Coaching and Goods Traffic.

he following table shows the number of passengers carried on the nerston to Pine Creek Line since its opening, together with the pts from the traffic and the average receipts per journey.

Year.	Passengers carried	Receipts from Coaching Traffic	Average Receipts per journey
	No.	£	d.
1890 (nine months)	4,567	4,330	227·54
1891	4,515	4,693	249·45
1892	4,541	4,159	219·80
1893	6,169	4,007	155·80
1894	4,076	3,820	224·91
1895	2,950	3,755	305·48
1896	2,901	3,772	312·04
1897	3,080	4,055	315·07
1898	3,126	3,556	273·01
1899	3,191	3,173	238·64
1900	3,374	3,556	260·48

e table shows an increase in the number of passengers carried g 1893, but the promise of the year was not sustained, and the fell away by more than one-half during the following years, ugh the earnings did not decline in anything like the same pro- on. The receipts per journey indicate that a large proportion of affic is of a long-distance character.

The control of the State railways is vested in the Commissioner for Railways, as member of the Government, but the active management is undertaken by an officer with the title of General Manager.

Revenue and Working Expenses.

The net sum available to meet interest charges during the last ten years is shown in the following table:

Year	Gross Earnings.	Working Expenses.	Net Earnings.	Proportion of Working Expenses to Gross Earnings.
	£	£	£	per cent.
1891	64,034	63,536	498	99·22
1892	94,201	90,654	3,547	96·23
1893 (half-year)	54,668	47,069	7,598	86·10
1894	140,584	103,973	36,591	73·96
1895	296,000	182,046	113,954	61·50
1896	529,616	263,704	265,912	49·79
1897	915,483	577,655	337,828	63·09
1898	1,019,677	786,318	233,359	77·11
1899	1,004,620	712,329	292,291	70·91
1900	1,259,512	861,470	398,042	68·40

From the foregoing statement it will be seen that the gross earnings have increased from £64,034 in 1891 to £1,259,512 in 1900. The rush to the gold fields of Western Australia has brought an enormous amount of traffic to the railways of that colony, and the lines stand in a position which it is impossible for those of any other province to attain, except under similar circumstances. The proportion of working expenses to gross earnings during the decade has been reduced from 99·22 per cent. to 68·40 per cent., the intervening years showing considerable irregularity. The rates for the carriage of merchandise are so low that the revenue derived from the traffic is hardly sufficient to pay for working it, and with a view to economy during 1899 the train service was considerably curtailed, and trains previously confined to passenger traffic were converted into mixed trains, conveying both passengers and goods, the result being a substantial reduction in working expenses proportionately to the gross earnings.

Interest returned on Capital

The following is a statement of the average interest earned by the railways on the money invested in them, and affords a comparison with the interest paid on the public debt of the colony.

Year	Interest returned on Capital.	Actual Rate of Interest payable on Public Funding Issue	Average gain
	per cent	per cent	per cent
1891	0·05	4·21	*4·16
1892	0·37	4·09	*3·72
1893 (half year)	0·70	4·09	*3·39
1894	3·12	4·09	*0·97
1895	5·45	4·09	1·36
1896	11·48	3·84	7·64
1897	9·05	3·60	5·45
1898	4·62	3·59	1·03
1899	4·55	3·54	1·01
1900	5·81	3·46	2·35

* Average loss.

The railways of Western Australia have not only met working expenses during the past six years, but have left a margin after making provision for the payment of interest on capital expenditure. In the construction of these railways, few engineering difficulties were met with, and the lines, which are of a light character, were constructed at a cheaper rate than those of any other colony. This fact, together with the enormous increase in coaching and goods traffic, due to the development of the gold fields, has been instrumental in securing such a favourable return.

Earnings and Expenses per Mile.

The gross earnings, expenditure, and net earnings per train mile for the last ten years are shown in the following table:—

Year	Gross Earnings per train mile.	Expenditure per train mile.	Net Earnings per train mile.
	d	d.	d.
1891	49·37	48·98	0·39
1892	55·62	53·52	2·10
1893 (half-year)	55·87	48·10	7·77
1894	52·59	38·90	13·69
1895	71·22	43·79	27·43
1896	82·44	41·05	41·39
1897	86·50	54·64	31·95
1898	67·72	52·22	15·50
1899	74·01	52·48	21·53
1900	71·70	49·04	22·66

he gross earnings, expenditure, and net earnings per average mile for the past ten years were as follow .—

Year	Gross Earnings per average mile open	Expenditure per average mile open.	Net Earnings per average mile open
	£	£	£
1891	315	313	2
1892	464	447	17
1893 (half-year)	269	232	37
1894	438	324	114
1895	538	331	207
1896	913	455	458
1897	1,103	696	407
1898	1,047	807	240
1899	791	561	230
1900	930	636	294

hile the gross earnings per train mile have increased from 49·37d. 891 to 71·70d. in 1900, the net earnings show a greater improvement ng the period, having risen from 0·39d. in the former year to 22·66d. he latter. The causes that have led up to this have already been tated. It will be observed that the expenses per train mile have l reduced since 1897, and this has been secured by the adoption of ystem of mixed trains. The volume of coaching and goods traffic led during 1898 was larger than in previous years, but the net ings per average mile open show a marked reduction. The ased traffic, of course, necessitated extra expenditure; and being mpanied by a reduction in rates, had the temporary effect of ing the net earnings. It is estimated that the adoption of the rates, as compared with the old, involved a loss during 1898 of at £232,000 in the working of the Northam, Southern Cross, ardie, and Kalgoorlie railways, but the wisdom of the railway y of the country is justified by the results of the following two

Coaching and Goods Traffic.

The following table shows the number of passengers carried o State lines of the colony during the year 1887, the earliest for particulars are available, and for the last ten years, together wit receipts for the traffic, and the average receipts per journey:

Year.	Passengers carried.	Receipts from Coaching Traffic.	Average Receipts per Journey.
	No.	£	d
1887	173,656	19,032	26·29
1891	277,997	26,750	23·08
1892	456,631	33,693	17·70
1893 (half-year)	286,520	16,967	14·20
1894	617,080	47,804	18·59
1895	1,022,248	107,278	25·17
1896	1,679,816	150,597	21 51
1897	3,607,486	303,124	20 16
1898	5,669,444	345,174	14 61
1899	5,872,200	312,685	12 78
1900	6,225,068	342,468	13·00

The statement shows a large increase in the number of passe carried each year, the gradual reduction in the average receipt journey shows the expansion of the suburban and local traffic.

The amount of goods tonnage for a similar period is shown i following table:

Year.	Tonnage of Goods.	Earnings.
		£
1887	52,151	20,380
1891	96,498	34,940
1892	135,890	56,330
1893 (half-year)	86,004	34,641
1894	204,686	80,660
1895	255,839	181,695
1896	435,757	352,597
1897	858,748	572,715
1898	1,203,911	646,695
1899	1,148,252	655,863
1900	1,384,040	884,843

It will be seen that the increase in the goods traffic has been siderable, the tonnage in 1898 being nearly double that of 1897, a ained about 60 per cent. in excess of 1898; but owing to reducti ges for carriage, the earnings have not shown so conside ion.

The year 1890 should be omitted from any comparison with
years, as it was in that year that the State took over the main
from the company by which it was previously owned. The c
working the Tasmanian railways is comparatively high—much h
than in any other Australasian system, and, like the New Ze
lines, the railways have to face severe competition with sea borne t
while there are no large inland centres that could support rail
There is a marked decrease year by year in the Australian traf
Launceston, which is attributed to the great improvement in the
steamer service between Melbourne and Hobart.

Interest returned on Capital.

The following table shows the average loss on the working o
Tasmanian railways for each year during the last ten years :

Year	Interest returned on Capital.	Actual rate of Interest payable on Outstanding Loans.	Average Loss.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
1890	0·68	4·11	3·43
1891	0·68	4·19	3·51
1892	0·43	3·23	2·80
1893	0·44	3·23	2·79
1894	0·61	3·96	3·35
1895	0·83	3·88	3·05
1896	1·16	3·87	2·71
1897	1·09	3·84	2·75
1898	1·03	3·82	2·79
1899	1·12	3·80	2·68

The foregoing table shows that there has been a slight improve
in the condition of the railway revenue during the past five years.
competition already referred to, together with the heavy initial
of the railways themselves, especially of the main line connec
Hobart with Launceston, for which the price paid by the Govern
on its resumption was at the rate of £9,069 per mile, as against
average of £8,233 per mile for the lines of the colony generally, re
it extremely difficult, even with the most careful management
effect any considerable diminution in the average loss. Even in
case of the Western line from Launceston to Ulverstone, which p
through the finest tract of agricultural land in the colony, the re
after paying working expenses for the year ended 30th June,
was only 1·95 per cent. on the cost of construction and equipment

Earnings and Expenses per Mile

he following tables indicate the gross earnings, expenditure, and earnings per train mile and per mile of line open. It will be rved that the net earnings per train mile reached 13d. in 1896, a t beyond which it does not seem likely there will be much expansion. compares very unfavourably with the results of other parts of tralia.

Year.	Gross Earnings per train mile.	Expenditure per train mile.	Net Earnings per train mile.
	d.	d.	d.
1890	46·13	37·44	8·69
1891	44·64	39·07	5·57
1892	46 73	42·68	4·05
1893	45·63	40·94	4·69
1894	45 83	38·96	6 87
1895	49 36	39·69	9 67
1896	52·85	39·63	13·22
1897	52·34	40·33	12·01
1898	56·17	44·50	11·67
1899	57 50	45·49	12·01

The earnings and expenditure per average mile open were as follows :—

Year	Gross Earnings per average mile open.	Expenditure per average mile open	Net Earnings per average mile open
	£	£	£
1890	425	345	80
1891	458	401	57
1892	424	387	37
1893	356	319	37
1894	338	287	51
1895	350	281	69
1896	381	286	95
1897	386	297	89
1898	400	317	83
1899	434	343	91

The year 1890 sh[illegible] been referred to. The years, as it was in [illegible] within the more densely from the company [illegible] were projected into the working the Tasma[illegible] sufficient production to than in any other [illegible] the other colonies the pro- lines, the railways [illegible] extremely high, and while the while there are [illegible] not seem possible under There is a mark[illegible] Launceston, whi[illegible] steamer servic[illegible]

[illegible] Traffic.

The follow[illegible] of passengers carried on the Tasmanian [illegible] ar 1881, and for the last ten [illegible] traffic and the average receipts [illegible] ing table:

[illegible]	Receipts from Coaching Traffic	Average Receipts per Journey
No.	£	d.
[illegible]	10,396	24·34
[illegible]	52,725	27·26
[illegible]	92,209	30·49
[illegible]	87,506	29·80
[illegible]	64,428	28·28
[illegible]	58,070	27·09
[illegible]	57,947	26·39
[illegible]	59,771	26·43
[illegible]	62,447	24·88
617,643	68,317	26·54
640,587	73,147	27·40

[illegible] the years 1891 and 1892 a large increase [illegible] of passengers carried. This was due to the [illegible] connecting Hobart with Launceston, the [illegible] question being swollen by the traffic over the [illegible] The increase, however, was not sustained. [illegible] a large diminution in the number of persons [illegible] was recorded. There has since been a revival [illegible] are good grounds for supposing that this improve- [illegible] The average receipts per journey do not vary [illegible] extent, the amount of suburban traffic properly [illegible] very small.

amount of goods tonnage for a similar period is shown in the ing table :—

Year	Tonnage of Goods and Live Stock	Earnings
		£
1881	21,043	8,332
1890	141,327	42,826
1891	161,141	65,856
1892	178,224	76,182
1893	164,982	73,490
1894	174,457	73,639
1895	204 480	78,797
1896	229,707	85,780
1897	229,620	86,041
1898	235,006	93,620
1899	312,446	107,661

information is available showing the subdivision of the tonnage ds and live stock for the year into a general classification The e distance each ton of goods was carried was 38·33 miles, and the e receipts per ton per mile 1·81d.

New Zealand.

continuance of the native war in New Zealand, militated against pid extension of the railways, and at the close of the war in 1870 were only 46 miles in operation. In 1875 the length of line for traffic had increased to 542 miles; in 1885, to 1,613 miles; 0, to 1,842 miles, and in 1895 to 2,014 miles. The length of line to 31st March, 1900, was 2,104 miles, at a cost of £16,703,887 struction and equipment, or at the rate of £7,939 per mile.

railway system of the Colony is divided into eleven sections. The awa and Whangarei sections, in the extreme north of the North are short lines to coal fields, and the Kaihu section was built for rpose of tapping large timber areas inland. The Auckland forms the northern portion of the North Island main trunk which, when complete, will terminate at Wellington, on the Cook's Strait. The Wellington Napier-New Plymouth section the group of lines which serve the southern portion of North In the northern portion of Middle Island, the Grey-Brunner, Hokitika, Westport, Nelson, and Picton sections form only link in the chain of through communication. On the East f Middle Island, the actual working portion of the main trunk to be found. The present terminus is at Culverden, from whence ion will be made northward This is known as the Hurunui ection, and includes the service to Christchurch, Dunedin, Inver- and the Bluff.

[illegible] railways of New Zealand was placed in the [illegible] in 1887, but early in 1895 the Govern[illegible] ways, the active control being vested [illegible] General Manager, who is responsible to the [illegible]

[illegible] and Working Expenses

[illegible] to meet interest charges during each year [illegible] set forth in the following table

[illegible]	Gross Earnings	Working Expenses	Net Earnings	Proportion of Working Expenses to Gross Earnings
	£	£	£	£
[illegible]	1,121,701	700,793	420,908	62·47
[illegible]	1,115,432	706,517	408,915	63·34
[illegible]	1,181,522	732,142	449,380	61·97
[illegible]	1,172,793	735,359	437,434	62·70
[illegible]	1,150,851	732,160	418,691	63·62
[illegible]	1,183,041	751,368	431,673	63·51
[illegible]	1,286,158	789,054	497,104	61·35
[illegible]	1,376,008	857,191	518,817	62·30
[illegible]	1,469,665	929,738	539,927	63·26
[illegible]	1,623,891	1,052,358	571,533	64·80

[illegible] table shows that the serious fluctuations that at [illegible] the returns of the colonies on the mainland of [illegible] are absent from those of New Zealand, the configuration of [illegible] and their higher latitude rendering them to a very great [illegible] from the periodical droughts to which the other colonies [illegible] The proportion of working expenses to gross earnings [illegible] to any considerable extent, and the increase during the [illegible] years is attributed to the payment of an increased rate of [illegible] wages, replacing old engines with new, heavy repairs due [illegible] age of the stock, and the relaying of a portion of the [illegible] with heavier rails. The outlook is considered so satis[illegible] that substantial reductions in passenger fares and freight for [illegible] products are contemplated.

Interest Returned on Capital.

[illegible] basis employed in the case of the colonies comprised within the [illegible] Commonwealth for ascertaining the net interest payable on the railway [illegible] cannot be adopted for New Zealand, the necessary data not being

able. The nominal loss is, therefore, shown in the following state-, the actual loss being somewhat higher:

Year.	Interest Returned on Capital.	Average rate of Interest payable on Outstanding Loans.	Average Loss
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
1891	2·95	4·22	1·27
1892	2·79	4·16	1·37
1893	3·05	4·42	1·37
1894	2·88	4·42	1·54
1895	2·73	4·10	1·37
1896	2·80	3·94	1·14
1897	3·19	3·92	0·73
1898	3·24	3·89	0·65
1899	3·29	3·81	0·52
1900	3·42	3·79	0·37

e foregoing table indicates that the railways are approaching the of being self-supporting, the interest returned on capital cost for ast six years showing an improvement each year.

Earnings and Expenses per Mile.

e gross earnings, expenditure, and net earnings per train mile for ast ten years are shown in the following table:—

Year.	Gross Earnings per train mile.	Expenditure per train mile.	Net Earnings per train mile
	d.	d.	d.
1891	93·00	58·09	34·91
1892	88·75	56·32	32·43
1893	94·50	58·53	35·97
1894	90·25	56·69	33·56
1895	85·75	54·54	31·21
1896	85·75	54·53	31·22
1897	90·50	55·55	34·95
1898	90·00	56·11	33·89
1899	89·00	56·22	32·78
1900	93·00	60·31	32·69

gross earnings per train mile have varied very little during the ars, the lowest point touched being 85¼d., and the highest, 94½d., the expenditure has varied even less. The expenditure during st year was higher than in any other year during the decennial d, and the net earnings show a slight but gradual reduction during ast four years. The results, however, compare very favourably the other colonies, and are only exceeded by those of New South s.

00 show an increase of only 22½ per cent in the number of gers who travelled first-class, while the increase in those who d second-class was not less than 79¾ per cent. While the prosperity of the past two years has induced more passengers e first class, it is none the less evident that the tendency is one class of carriage, as already exists in the case of tramways.

amount of goods tonnage for a similar period is shown in the g table :—

Year.	Tonnage of Goods exclusive of Live Stock.	Earnings.
		£
1882	1,437,714	491,057
1891	2,086,011	690,779
1892	2,066,791	671,469
1893	2,193,330	707,786
1894	2,060,645	686,409
1895	2,048,391	684,726
1896	2,087,708	698,115
1897	2,368,927	774,163
1898	2,518,367	837,500
1899	2,621 059	882,077
1900	3,127,874	985,723

large increase in the tonnage of goods carried during the past ver preceding years was caused by the bountiful harvest in the Island, which was carried at freight rates averaging 20 per elow those ruling in the previous year.

subdivision of the tonnage of goods and live stock for the year 31st March, 1900, is shown in the following table. Particulars of ods traffic are set forth in seven classes, but the average distance ich goods of each class were carried, cannot be given, and there data available showing the average earnings per ton per mile.

Description of Traffic.	Tons carried	Number carried
Lime and Chaff	77,202	
Wool	104,620	
Firewood	92,126	
Timber	334,677	
Grain	764,033	
Merchandise	536,428	
Minerals	1,218,698	
Cattle		65,063
Sheep		2,523,787
Pigs		36,049

Tramways.

In all the Australasian colonies tramways are in operation, but it is chiefly in Sydney and Melbourne, the inhabitants of which numbered at the latest date 438,300 and 477,790 respectively, that the density of settlement has necessitated the general adoption of this mode of transit.

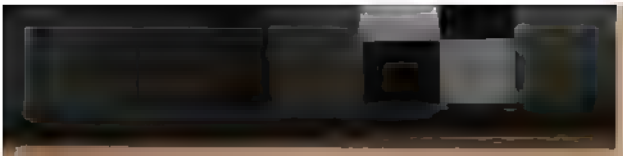
In New South Wales the three systems of electric, cable, and steam traction are in vogue. Within the metropolitan area, however, it has been decided to substitute electric for steam power, and the conversion is now being made. The length of line under electric traction on the 30th June, 1900, was 20¼ miles, comprising 10¼ miles at North Sydney, 1¼ mile from Ocean street, Woollahra, to Rose Bay; 3 miles 19 chains on the George street Harris street tramway; and 5½ miles to Marrickville, Dulwich Hill, and St. Peters. The only line worked by cable traction is that from King street, Sydney, to Ocean street, in the suburb of Woollahra, a distance of 2¼ miles. On the remaining lines steam motors are still used. The length of Government tram lines open at 30th June, 1900, was 71¼ miles, which had cost for construction and equipment £1,924,720. The receipts for the year were £109,724, and the working expenses £41,127, leaving a profit of £68,597, or 3·56 per cent. on the invested capital. The number of passengers carried during 1900 was 66,244,334.

In Victoria the cable system is in operation in the metropolitan area, the lines having been constructed by a municipal trust at a cost of £1,705,794. The tramways are leased to a company, and the receipts for the year ended 30th June, 1900, were £456,054. The number of passengers carried during the year was 41,661,580. The miles of track operated on were 43¼ cable and 4½ horse lines, or 48 miles of double track.

In Queensland there is a system of electric trams controlled by a private company. No information regarding liabilities is available since 30th September, 1895, when they were set down at £166,218, and the assets to 30th September, 1896, the latest date available, were shown at £131,542. The receipts for the year ended 30th September, 1897, the latest available, were £30,299; and the expenses including depreciation, £26,304. The length of the tramways is 22½ miles, or 36 miles of single line. The company owned fifty-eight electric cars, and during the year ended 30th September, 1899, 9,938,307 passengers were carried.

In South Australia there are no Government tramways. Horse trams are run in the principal streets of Adelaide by private companies. No particulars have been collected respecting the length of the lines, nor of the returns therefrom. A proposal is under consideration for the substitution of electric traction on those lines.

The Western Australian Government owns a line of horse tramways on a 2 foot gauge between Roeburne and Cossack, a length of 8¼ miles.



constructed at a cost of £23,352. For the year ended 30th June, 1900, the gross earnings were £2,131, and the working expenses £2,889, leaving the loss on working expenses at £758.

In Hobart there is an electric tramway about 9 miles in length, owned by a private company. The cost of construction and equipment was £30,000; and the company possesses 20 cars, of which the average number in use is 12. For the year ended 31st December, 1899, the receipts amounted to £12,459, and the working expenses, excluding directors fees, to £8,940. The passengers carried during the twelve months numbered 1,284,552. There is also a steam system 2 miles in length, constructed at a cost of £3,212. No information is available as to the receipts for the year ended 31st December, 1899, but the working expenses were £1,948. The number of passengers carried during the twelve months was 24,219.

There are also tramways in existence in New Zealand under private management, but no particulars in regard to them are at present available.

as Victoria and Queensland; and in the Sydney office about 15 persons were employed. The revenue of the Department for the year was £8,390, and the expenditure £10,347: while payments were made by the New South Wales Government to the post office at Korraika, in New Zealand, which was not created a separate colony until 1841. In 1847 an overland mail between Sydney and Adelaide was established. Stamps in their present form were issued in 1849, and the postage rates were fixed at 1d. per ½ oz. for town and 2d. for country letters, at which they remain in most of the colonies to-day.

Regular steam mail communication with Great Britain was first established in 1852. Until that time the Australian colonies had to depend upon the irregular arrival and despatch of sailing vessels for the carriage of mails; but in the year mentioned the steamships Australia, Chusan, and Great Britain were despatched from England, making the voyage in 60 days, and causing a strong desire in the minds of the colonists for a more frequent and steady system of steam communication with the Old World. The outbreak of the Crimean War in 1854 hindered for a while the accomplishment of this object; but in 1856 a line of steamers was again laid on, and the service was carried on by the Peninsular and Oriental Company and the Royal Mail Company for some years, but without giving so much satisfaction to the public as might have been expected.

As far back as 1854 a proposal was made for the establishment of a line of mail packets *via* Panama, and negotiations on the subject were carried on for several years between the British Government and the Governments of New South Wales and New Zealand. The result was that in 1866 the service was started, and continued in operation until the end of 1868, when it was terminated through the failure of the company by which it had been carried out. In the following year New South Wales, in conjunction with New Zealand, inaugurated a mail service *via* San Francisco, which, with a few interruptions and under various conditions, has been continued up to the present time.

The establishment of a mail route *via* America had the effect of stimulating the steamship owners who were engaged in the service *via* Suez, and from that time there was a marked improvement in the steamers employed, as well as in the punctuality and speed with which the mails were delivered. The Peninsular and Oriental Company have carried mails for the colonies almost from the inception of the ocean steam service, with very few interruptions. Towards the end of 1878 the Orient Company commenced carrying mails between Australia and the United Kingdom, and have continued to do so ever since. In the year 1883 the fine steamers of the Messageries Maritimes of France entered the service, followed in 1887 by the North German Lloyd's, so that there are now sometimes two or even three mails received and despatched every week, and a voyage to Europe, which was formerly a formidable undertaking, involving great loss of time and much discomfort, is regarded as a mere pleasure trip to fill up a holiday.

In the year 1893 another mail service was established, by a line of steamers running from Sydney to Vancouver Island, in British Columbia. This line seems likely to open up a valuable trade between the Australian colonies and British North America. There is also a line of steamers running between Brisbane and London, but the colonies other than Queensland make little use of these vessels.

Growth of Postal Business.

The growth of postal business in each of the colonies during the thirty-nine years from 1861 to 1899 is shown below. It will be seen that the number of letters for all Australasia in 1861 was less than is now transacted by any individual colony, Tasmania and Western Australia excepted. The true total for Australasia is, of course, not to be found by adding the figures of the several colonies together, as inter-colonial letters are counted both in the colony from which they are despatched and in that in which they are received for delivery. A second total is therefore given from which this excess has been excluded:—

State	Post Offices.		Letters and Post cards.		Newspapers.		Packets.	
	1861	1899.	1861	1899.	1861.	1899.	1861	1899
New South Wales	340	2,152	4,369,463	76,720,700	3,384,245	46,806,000	[illegible]	[illegible]
Victoria . . .	369	1,593	6,109,929	77,796,000	4,277,179	23,614,200		[illegible]
Queensland	24	1,239	515,211	21,181,300	427,489	11,033,300	[illegible]	[illegible]
South Australia	160	602	1,540,472	19,765,400	1,089,424	8,937,000	—	[illegible]
Western Australia	—	168	193,317	12,973,000	137,476	6,287,000	—	[illegible]
Tasmania . ..	100	355	835,873	10,636,000	895,050	6,293,000	.	[illegible]
Commonwealth		6,109	13,564,265	218,480,200	10,211,469	103,571,100		[illegible]
Commonwealth (excluding Inter-State excess)	.	..	12,844,300	199,338,100	9,603,000	91,777,000		[illegible]
New Zealand	.	1,620	1,236,768	40,127,400	1,428,351	15,717,400		[illegible]
Australasia	..	7,819	14,801,033	258,607,600	11,639,820	119,288,500	....	[illegible]
Australasia (excluding inter-colonial excess)		..	14,061,000	238,253,200	10,941,400	106,165,400		[illegible]

A corresponding table to that already given, showing the number of letters, newspapers, and packets per head of population, is appended :—

State.	Letters and Post-cards		Newspapers.		Packets.	
	1861.	1899.	1861.	1899.	1861.	1899.
New South Wales	12	57	10	35	1	10
Victoria	11	67	8	20		9
Queensland	17	44	14	24	1	12
South Australia	13	54	9	24		4
Western Australia	12	76	9	37		18
Tasmania	9	56	10	35		10
Commonwealth	11	54	8	25		9
New Zealand	14	54	16	21		24
Australasia*	11	54	9	24		12

* Intercolonial excess excluded.

Western Australia takes the lead in the transmission of letters and newspapers, and is only surpassed by New Zealand in the matter of packets; while Victoria in letters and postcards, and New South Wales and Tasmania in newspapers come second. A comparison of the average number of letters and postcards per head of population in Australasia with similar figures for the principal countries of the world is afforded by the table given below. It will be seen that on a population basis the correspondence of Australasia exceeds that of any of the countries named, with the exception of the United Kingdom :—

Country	Letters and Post-cards per head.	Country	Letters and Post-cards per head.
United Kingdom	67	France	27
Australasia	54	Norway	23
Switzerland	47	Hungary	14
Germany	42	Portugal	13
Sweden	41	Italy	8
Denmark	39	Spain	6
Austria	37	Roumania	5
Canada	31	Chili	5
Belgium	30	Greece	4
Argentine Republic	28	Russia	4
Netherlands	28		

... on town and 2d on country ... and South Australia, where ... tively on all letters posted for ... the minimum charge was in ... too great, and in 1892 the rate ... still remains. In New South ... of 1d. per ½ oz. has been ... cipal country towns. The inter ... per ½ oz. in Australasia. It has ... to introduce a universal penny

... rates are to be found in New South ... Tasmania, where newspapers printed ... free if posted within one week of ... South Wales the maximum weight ... It is, therefore, only natural that those ... given on page 705, should exceed their ... number of newspapers carried per head of ... New Zealand the charge is ½d. each, and in ... and ½d. per 10 oz. The intercolonial ... ½d. per 10 oz in New South Wales, ... and Western Australia, and 1d. each in ... except Queensland, to which province ... 2 oz. In Tasmania newspapers posted to ... New Zealand are carried free if posted within ... to Queensland the charge is ½d for every ... colonies, ½d each. In Queensland the uniform ... is ½d. per 2 oz.

Registered Letters.

... registered letters and packets passing through the ... Australasian colonies has largely increased of late ... South Wales the number of such letters in 1899 was ... ber has been exceeded in previous years, for ... when the number was 1,075,241, but this total ... up of correspondence relating to so-called "cor ... lottery sweeps connected with horse-racing, which ... in Sydney, and to support which large sums of ... to that city from all parts of Australasia, as well ... countries. Probably not less than 600,000 of the ... South Wales in 1892 were associated with these lotteries ... of that col... dealt with the evil in an amending

tal Bill in 1893, and this illicit branch of the postal traffic was oved to Queensland, where the number of registered letters at once tly increased, and numbered 541,148 in 1895. But in 1896 the liament of Queensland passed an Act making these lotteries illegal, the evil was transferred to Hobart, the registrations in the northern ny in 1899 numbering only 235,155. In South Australia 584,532 istered letters were dealt with during the year. In Western Aus- ia 218,254 registered letters and packets were passed through the d office, while in New Zealand the registered articles dealt with abered 489,137. For Victoria and Tasmania no particulars of istrations are available.

Parcels Posts.

xcepting Western Australia, where there was no inland service, e were inland, intercolonial, and international parcels posts in opera- in 1899, but statistics of the services on a uniform basis are not inable. During the year 654,474 parcels, weighing 2,392,593 lb., having a value of £418,092, passed through the post-office of South Wales, the postage collected amounting to £42,091; in toria 192,716 parcels, yielding a revenue of £9,737, were dealt ; in Queensland the number of parcels which passed through post-office was 233,009, weighing 1,001,544 lb., and the revenue ved from the service amounted to £16,080; in South Australia 55 parcels weighing 100,857 lb. were forwarded and the revenue ived was £2,620, in Western Australia 31,795 parcels, the de- ed value of which was £41,364, and which yielded a revenue of 7, were dealt with; in Tasmania 11,640 inland and 2,845 ship els were posted during the year, while 15,665 packets and parcels, ued at £19,666, were received from the United Kingdom and the r colonies, and in New Zealand the parcels dealt with numbered 350, weighing 765,836 lb, of which 30,207, weighing 99,438 lb., valued at £70,094, were received from places outside the colony; 9,576, weighing 23,188 lb., and valued at £10,806, were despatched the colony.

Money Orders and Postal Notes.

all the colonies there are money order and postal note systems in ation, and in all the colonies except Victoria, Queensland, and h Australia post-office savings banks. In Queensland there is a ernment Savings Bank, but it is not placed under the administra- of the Postmaster-General. The Victorian Post Office Savings k was amalgamated with the Commissioners' Savings Bank in ember, 1897. Particulars of the working of these services will ound in the chapter dealing with Private Finance.

Postal Facilities.

The following table shows the number of inhabitants and the area [illegible] for the year 1899. It will be seen [illegible] have the greatest number of [illegible] population, but in order to judge [illegible] the area of country to each [illegible] —

[illegible]	[illegible]	Number of Square Miles of Territory to each Office
[illegible]	625	144
[illegible]	729	55
[illegible]	385	540
[illegible]	532	1,306
[illegible]	1,009	5,800
[illegible]	506	74
[illegible]	597	480
[illegible]	463	64
[illegible]	569	394

Ocean Mail Services.

[illegible] Ocean Mail Service, which is carried on by the Orient [illegible] and Oriental Steam Navigation Companies, is subsidised [illegible] Kingdom and all the Australasian colonies with the [illegible] New Zealand. New contracts were entered into on the [illegible] 1898, for a period of seven years. The total amount of [illegible] £170,000, of which £98,000 is payable by the Imperial [illegible] and £72,000 by the colonies in proportion to their popu[illegible] sea transit rates collected from other countries and [illegible] use of the service are credited to the Imperial and [illegible] Governments in proportion to the amount of their [illegible] towards the subsidy. The following table shows the [illegible] the subsidy payable by each of the colonies during [illegible] the basis of the population at the end of the preceding [illegible] In addition to the subsidy, there are other charges in con[illegible] with the service, such as transit rates in France and [illegible] and in Australia. After adding these, and deducting the [illegible] collected in the colonies, and the proportion of sea transit [illegible] payable by other countries using the service, the net cost to New [illegible] Wales in 1899 was £5,936, and to Victoria £378, as shown [illegible]

the table given below. For the other colonies, the net cost of the service is not obtainable. New Zealand, although not a contracting party, yet avails itself of the Federal Service for the carriage of mail matter, and its net loss during the year amounted to £1,552 —

		Subsidy, 1899.	Net Cost, 1899.
United Kingdom		£98,000	.
Australasia—			
New South Wales	£25,955	... .	£5,936
Victoria	22,696	... .	378
Queensland...	9,603		
South Australia..	7,095	. ...	.
Western Australia	3,236	.	. .
Tasmania	3,415	...	..
		£72,000	..
Total		£170,000	

The mail service has been performed with great regularity and expedition. The average time occupied by the outward and homeward services in 1899 was as follows . -

	Orient	P. and O.
London to Sydney	$33\frac{1}{16}$ days.	$32\frac{5}{16}$ days.
Sydney to London	$32\frac{13}{16}$,,	$32\frac{9}{16}$,,

On several occasions the mails from London have been delivered in Sydney in 32 days.

In addition to the Federal Ocean Mail Service *via* Suez, New South Wales and New Zealand until November, 1890, subsidised the Union Steamship Company, in conjunction with the Pacific Steamship Company, for a four-weekly service *via* San Francisco, to the amount of £37,000, of which New South Wales paid £25,750, and New Zealand £11,250. Under the new contract which was entered into, the amount of the subsidy was largely reduced, the contribution being based on the weight of mail matter carried, and New South Wales made an annual payment of £4,000 to the New Zealand Government, subject to appropriation by Parliament. Various extensions of the contract have been made, and at present the New Zealand Government guarantees a minimum payment of £7,500. During the year 1899 the net cost of the service to New Zealand was £10,745; to New South Wales, £1,985; and to Victoria, £331. The average time occupied in carrying the mails by the San Francisco route during the same year was as follows: -

London to Sydney	$36\frac{1}{16}$ days.
Sydney to London	$36\frac{1}{16}$,,

During 1893 a calendar monthly service between Sydney and Vancouver was established by the Canadian-Australian Royal Mail Line,

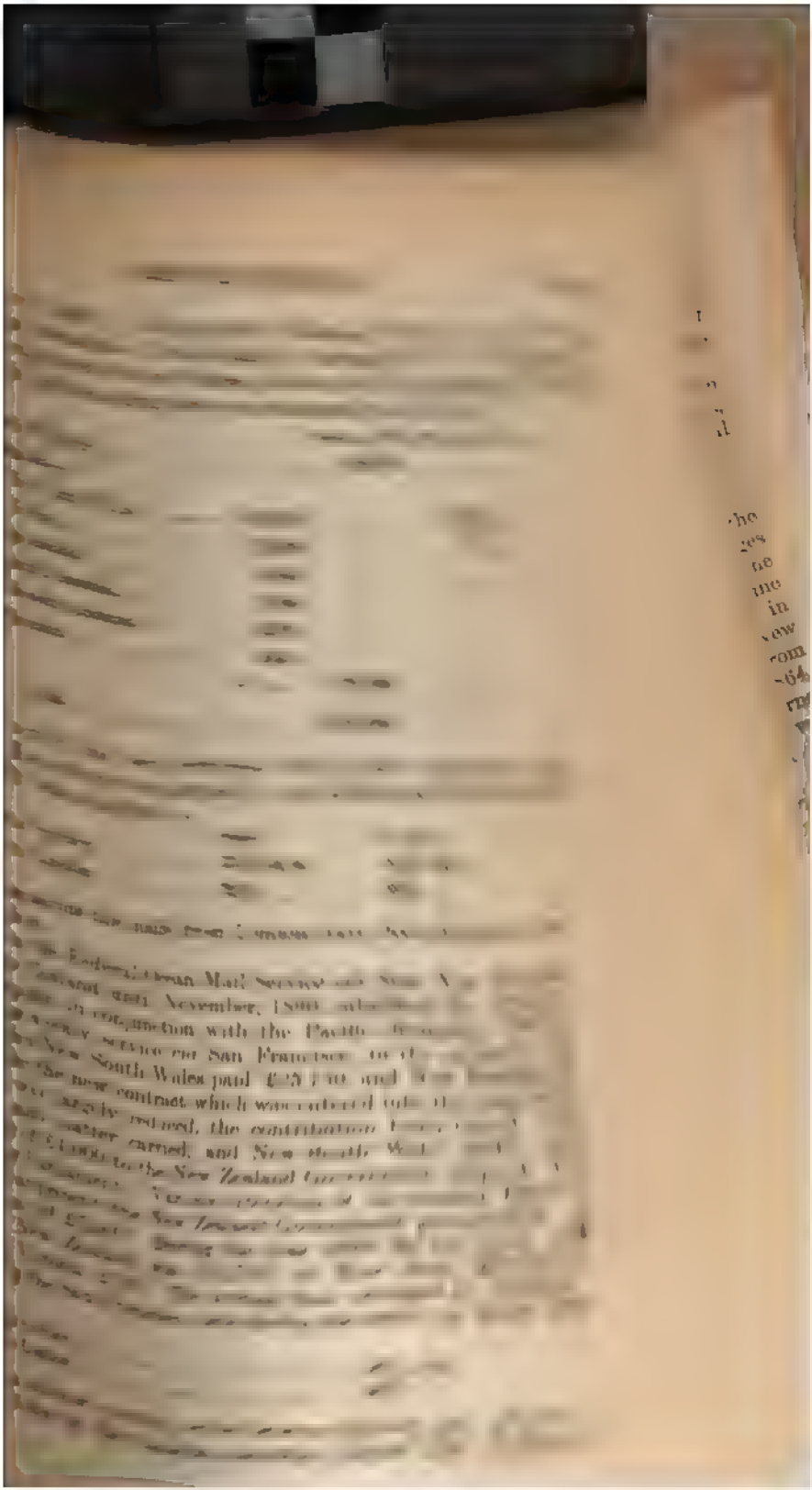
Postal Facilities.

following table shows the number of inhabitants and the are miles to each post-office for the year 1899. It will be the most sparsely populated colonies have the greatest numb offices in comparison with their population, but in order to e relative extension of postal facilities the area of country must also be taken into account:

State.	Number of Inhabitants to each Post Office	Number of Square Miles of Territory each Office
New South Wales	625	144
Victoria	729	55
Queensland	385	548
South Australia	532	1,30[illegible]
Western Australia	1,009	5,8[illegible]
Tasmania	506	
Commonwealth	597	
New Zealand	463	
Australasia	569	

Ocean Mail Services.

The Federal Ocean Mail Service, which is carried and Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Comp by the United Kingdom and all the Australasian exception of New Zealand. New contracts were 1st February, 1898, for a period of seven years. the subsidy is £170,000, of which £98,000 is pay authorities and £72,000 by the colonies in prop lation. The sea transit rates collected from colonies making use of the service are credited Colonial Governments in proportion to the c tribution towards the subsidy. The follow amount of the subsidy payable by each of 1899, on the basis of the population at the year. In addition to the subsidy, there are nection with the service, such as transit Italy and in Australia. After adding the postages collected in the colonies, and the rates payable by other countries using the ser Wales in 1899 was £5,936, and to Vi



The next table gives similar particulars, but the figures represent miles of wire instead of miles of line —

State.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1900.
New South Wales	1,961	3,379	14,278	24,780	38,718
Victoria		3,472	6,626	13,989	15,125
Queensland	49	2,614	8,585	17,646	18,469
South Australia	887	1,718	7,228	12,707*	13,386
Western Australia		779	1,303	3,546	8,749
Tasmania		241	1,157	3,178	3,252
Commonwealth	—	14,374	39,467	75,846	98,409
New Zealand	—	2,287	9,653	13,235	19,228
Australasia	—	17,661	49,120	89,081	117,637

* Including telephone wires.

The number of telegrams passing along the wires of each colony and the revenue received by the Telegraph Departments during the year are recorded. In the total for Australasia a correction has been made for intercolonial telegrams recorded in both the sending and receiving colony —

State.	Number of Telegrams.	Revenue received.
		£
New South Wales	3,112,983	168,758
Victoria	2,320,298	107,988
Queensland	1,541,896	85,500
South Australia	1,257,608	116,135
Western Australia	1,136,513	81,365
Tasmania	379,377	17,932
Commonwealth	9,726,355	577,678
Do. (Inter-State excess excluded)	8,124,000	
New Zealand	3,589,777	119,642
Australasia	13,316,132	697,320
Do. (Intercolonial excess excluded).	11,653,800	

In the whole of Australasia there were on 31st December, 1899, 1,811 telegraph stations, of which 945 were in New South Wales, 803

Victoria, 156 in Queensland, 280 in South Australia, 155 in Western Australia, 275 in Tasmania, and 915 in New Zealand.

In no country in the world has the development of telegraphic communication been so rapid as in Australasia, and in none has it been taken advantage of by the public to anything like the same extent. Taking Australasia as a whole, there are only four countries that possess a greater extent of telegraph lines, and only seven in which a larger number of messages is actually sent. In no other country, however, except the United Kingdom, does the number of messages bear anything approaching the same ratio to the population. The following table illustrates these remarks:—

Country.	Length of Telegraph Lines.	Messages.	Messages per head of population.
	miles.	No.	No.
United Kingdom	43,803	87,043,652	2·3
France	62,952	44,515,175	1·2
Belgium	3,961	6,119,111	0·9
Netherlands*	3,671	4,957,691	1·0
Germany	90,760	44,885,733	0·8
Denmark	3,623	1,053,100	0·9
Sweden	5,442	2,294,809	0·4
Norway	7,481	2,049,458	0·9
Austria-Hungary	44,858	21,328,258	0·5
Switzerland	4,436	3,820,320	1·2
Italy	26,085	8,701,414	0·3
Spain	17,883	5,433,362	0·3
Portugal	4,584	3,095,477	0·6
Russia	90,383	16,371,288	0·2
Roumania	4,290	2,586,534	0·4
United States†	189,856	61,396,157	1·0
Canada	32,538	4,449,765	0·8
Cape Colony	7,224	2,321,082	1·5
Argentine Republic	25,345	4,953,887	1·3
Commonwealth of Australia	44,244	8,124,000	2·2
Australasia	51,154	11,653,000	2·6

* Government lines only. † Western Union Company only.

From the above table it appears that in Australasia during the year over two and a half messages were sent over the telegraph for each inhabitant. In the United Kingdom the number was two and three-tenths for each inhabitant; and in the United States of America about one message to every inhabitant. The return for the United States, however, includes only the lines of the Western Union Company, which owns the principal part of the telegraph system of that country. The other countries shown in the table sent messages ranging from one and a half per inhabitant in the case of Cape Colony, to one-fifth per inhabitant in the case of Russia.

The next table gives sta
miles of wire instead of mi

State	
New South Wales	
Victoria	
Queensland	
South Australia	
Western Australia	
Tasmania	
Commonwealth	
New Zealand	
Australasia	

The number of telegra
and the revenue receive
year 1899 were as appe
has been made for m
despatching and the rece

State	
New South Wales	
Victoria	
Queensland	
South Australia	
Western Australia	
Tasmania	
Commonwealth	
[illegible]	
New Zealand	
Australasia	
[illegible]	

came into operation under which the guarantee was reduced to £20,000, and the Company ceased to share in any loss. This agreement expired on the 30th April, 1900, and the Company in proposing a renewal claimed that the guarantee should be increased to £26,000. This was absolutely declined by New Zealand, and the Company then determined on a uniform word rate of 3d., and abolished the minimum charge of 2s. for the first ten words. This was agreed to pending the laying of the Pacific Cable.

A cable connecting New Caledonia with Queensland at Bundaberg was opened in October, 1893. It was constructed by a French company, and is guaranteed by the French Government to the extent of £8,000, and by the colonies of New South Wales and Queensland to the amount of £2,000 each annually for a period of thirty years, in return for which the Governments of these colonies are entitled to use the cable for the transmission of official messages up to the amount of the guarantee.

During the year 1890 the colonies opened negotiations with the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company for a reduction in the cable rates to Europe, which at that time were 9s. 4d. per word for ordinary messages and 2s. 8d. per word for press messages sent from New South Wales; and at a conference of the postal and telegraphic authorities proposal to reduce the tariff to 4s. per word for ordinary messages and 1s. 10d. per word for press messages was agreed to, the colonies contributing to the subsidy undertaking to make good half the loss which the company would sustain by this reduction in the schedule of charges, and New South Wales, Victoria, Western Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand at the same time agreeing to pay to South Australia a proportion of the loss to the revenue of that colony which the lower charges would cause in the working of the overland wires. The amended tariff came into force in May, 1891, and the amount to be guaranteed to the company for the portion of the year during which the contract was in existence was £158,491. The sum earned by the company for the same period was £120,141, so that the deficiency on the eight months' business was £38,350, one-half of which was made good by the contributing colonies according to population. But this sum, combined with the amount of the subsidy, was more than the colonies were prepared to bear, and on the 1st January, 1893, the rates were fixed at 4s. 11d. per word from Sydney to London for ordinary messages, and 1s. 10d. for press messages. Even at these charges there was a loss to be borne, the total amount payable to the cable company being £21,778 in 1893 (as compared with £27,520 in 1892), and £6,191 in 1894; and to the South Australian Government £7,675 in 1893 (as compared with £10,415 in 1892), £822 in 1894, and £1,125 in 1895. Since the years mentioned the amounts guaranteed—£227,000 to the cable company, and £37,552 to the South Australian Government—have been met by the revenue, and the colonies have therefore not been called upon to contribute. Queensland later joined the other colonies in the guarantee.

The agreement between the Australian Governments and the Company expires on 30th April, 1900. In July, 1899, the Company offered to lay a cable to Australia, *via* the Cape of Good Hope, to reduce the cable fee would from 4s. 11d. to 4s. at once, and later to 2s. 6d. under a sliding scale, if the colonies would agree to certain stipulations. South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania accepted the terms offered and now enjoy the reduced rates. The other colonies refused, but notified the Company that they also would accept if certain alterations were made in the agreement, these alterations being intended to safeguard the Pacific cable, to which these colonies were definitely committed. As the Company has not yet made the required alterations, the matter is still in abeyance.

The following table shows the amount paid by each colony towards cable subsidies and guarantees during the year 1899. The proportions are based on the 1891 census populations. The Port Darwin-Banjoewangie payment was for ten months only, as the subsidy agreement terminated on the 31st October, 1899 —

State	Port Darwin to Banjoewangie Subsidy	Victoria-Tasmania Subsidy	New South Wales-New Zealand Guarantee	Queensland-New Caledonia Guarantee	Total
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
New South Wales	11,169 8 3	1,488 17 8	237 11 3	2,000 0 0	14,900 17 2
Victoria	10,112 16 —	1,504 13 3	230 6 7	— — —	11,856 15 3
Queensland	—	519 9 6	82 12 2	2,000 0 0	2,602 1 8
South Australia	3,199 11 0	422 15 7	67 4 8	— — —	3,690 11 3
Western Australia	1,187 7 4	66 13 3	30 15 6	— — —	1,284 16 6
Tasmania	1,429 16 3	197 10 4	10 3 11	— — —	1,637 15 6
New Zealand	—	—	529 1 11	— —	529 1 11
Total	27,099 0 0	4,200 0 0	1,197 0 0	4,000 0 0	36,297 0 0

The desirability of constructing a Pacific cable, which should touch only British territory on its way from Australia to America, is now suggested by the Governments of most of the Australasian colonies as well as by those of the United Kingdom and Canada, and an informal conference was held in London in July, 1898, of representatives of Great Britain, Canada, New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, and New Zealand, when it was suggested that Great Britain should pay one-third of the cost of laying such a cable, Canada two-ninths, and the Australasian colonies the remaining four-ninths. This proposal was unanimously accepted, and in July, 1899, a meeting was held in London of representatives of the countries interested, and it was

agreed that the cable should be laid and that the capital necessary to construct and manage it should be raised and controlled by a Board of Commissioners selected by the contributing Governments. A tender of £1,975,000 for laying the cable has been accepted by the committee acting on behalf of the Governments concerned, the work to be completed within eighteen months.

TELEPHONES.

In connection with the telegraph departments of the various colonies, telephone exchanges have been established in the capitals and other important centres of population. In order to popularise the use of the instrument, the charges in some of the colonies have within the last few years been reduced, and the result is seen in a satisfactory extension of this means of communication. Information regarding telephones in the different colonies during 1899, as far as can be ascertained, will be found in the following table —

State.	Exchanges.	Telephones.	Length of Telephone Wires.	Revenue.
	No.	No.	miles.	£
New South Wales	38	10,119	*	60,429
Victoria	15	4,409	13,591	47,919
Queensland	11	2,157	3,108	12,574
South Australia	10	1,320	3,304	18,171
Western Australia	10	2,115	2,869	20,705
Tasmania	5	1,010	815	4,285
Commonwealth	89	21,130	..	164,083
New Zealand	40	7,150	6,343	43,303
Australasia	129	28,280	..	207,386

* Not ascertained.

In the Australasian colonies the rates for telephones at places of business range from £5 to £10 for the minimum length of wire—generally one mile, the colonies with a half-mile radius being New Zealand and Queensland—and the charge is higher in the city than in the country. In New South Wales and Victoria the city and suburban rates are £9 per annum, and the country rates, £8. In South Australia the city rate is higher, being £10, but in the suburbs and country the rates range from £6 to £8. Queensland, for a radius of half-a-mile, has a uniform rate of £6, which is also the charge made in Tasmania, for a one mile radius, in Hobart, Launceston, and Zeehan, while for the suburbs and country districts the rate is a matter of arrangement. In New

Zealand a distinction is drawn between exchanges continuously open and those not continuously open, the charges being respectively £7 and £5; while in Western Australia, in the towns of Perth, Fremantle, and Guildford, the rate is £7, and £10 where the exchange has less than 100 subscribers. The charges for telephones at private residences is, of course, less than for places of business. In New South Wales, Victoria, and New Zealand, the rate is uniformly £5, and in Queensland £6. In South Australia the charge is £6 for the city, and from £6 to £8 in the suburbs and country; in Tasmania, it is £4 10s. in Hobart, Launceston, and Zeehan, and a matter of arrangement in the suburbs and country; while in Western Australia, at Perth, Fremantle, and Guildford, the charge is £5, and £6 where the exchange has less than 100 subscribers.

Postal and Telegraphic Finances.

The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of the Postal and Telegraph Departments of the colonies during 1899 :—

State	Revenue				Expenditure
	Posts.	Telegraphs.	Telephones.	Total	
	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	560,471	168,758	60,429	789,658	758,606
Victoria	451,050	107,988	47,919	606,957	554,38[illegible]
Queensland	200,726	85,500	12,575	298,801	347,713
South Australia	134,709	116,135	18,171	269,015	297,340
Western Australia	101,892	81,365	20,705	203,962	230,70[illegible]
Tasmania	78,055	17,932	4,285	100,272	78,065
Commonwealth	1,526,903	577,678	164,084	2,268,665	2,177,042
New Zealand	325,301	119,642	43,303	488,246	300,448
Australasia	1,852,204	697,320	207,387	2,756,911	2,567,490

With the exception of New South Wales, Victoria, and New Zealand the revenues set down are only approximate, as the receipts for postage are mixed with those for stamp duty under the general heading of fees. In the other colonies postage stamps are also used for the purpose of stamping acknowledgments for the receipt of money. During 1899 the New South Wales Post Office made an allowance of £24,000 on this account. In the expenditure shown in the table, interest on the outlay on post offices, buildings and telegraph lines and maintenance of buildings [illegible] taken into account. If allowance be made for these, as far as is [illegible] from the very imperfect returns concerning the expenditure on

ost offices in each colony, the total expenditure and the deficiency in evenue would be as follow :

State.	Expenditure, inclusive of Interest and Maintenance.	Deficiency in Revenue.
	£	£
New South Wales	869,912	80,254
Victoria	653,461	46,304
Queensland	421,049	122,248
South Australia	275,300	6,285
Western Australia	255,025	51 063
Tasmania	86,125	*14,147
Commonwealth.	2,560,872	292,207
New Zealand	460,785	*27,461
Australasia	3,021,657	264,746

* Excess of Revenue.

PRIVATE FINANCE.

THE first century of Australasian history closed on the 26th January, 1888. It is impossible to trace step by step the progress made during that period, as the data for the purpose are for the most part wanting. Sufficient material is, however, available from which a comparative statement of the wealth of the colonies at different periods may be obtained. In the following figures the private wealth of the people has alone been enumerated, the value of the unsold lands of the State, as well as the value of public works, having been omitted. The table shows the private wealth of the whole of Australasia, and the increase thereof at intervals of twenty-five years from the date when this territory was first occupied.

Year	Private Wealth.
	£
1788	Country first colonised.
1813	1,000,000
1838	26,000,000
1863	181,000,000
1888	1,015,000,000
1892	1,079,246,000

Though Australasia has but the population of a province of some of the great European powers, in the wealth and earnings of its people it stands above most of the secondary States, and as regards wealth and income per head of population it compares very favourably with any country.

The method adopted in valuing the elements of private wealth has been explained in previous issues of this work, and has not been greatly varied from. Land, houses, and other improvements thereon, re-

ent two-thirds of the private wealth. There are now ample data lable for assessing the value of land and improvements, for besides municipal returns which are available for each colony, there are plete land tax returns for New South Wales, New Zealand, and th Australia. From the data thus to hand, there has been no sulty in arriving at the value of land separately from its improve-ts. For all Australasia, the value of land in private hands was in 0, £421,726,000, out of a total wealth of £1,079,246,000: this re-ents a proportion of 39 per cent., the proportion varying in each e, as follows:—

State.	Value of Land.	Proportion of total Wealth.
	£	per cent.
New South Wales	143,669,000	40·3
Victoria	108,388,000	40·1
Queensland	34,294,000	31·1
South Australia	27,450,000	40·8
Western Australia	8,554,000	23·0
Tasmania	14,900,000	39·3
Commonwealth	337,325,000	38·3
New Zealand	84,401,000	42·2
Australasia	421,726,000	39·1

he improvements on the lands of the seven colonies are valued at 2,718,000, which sum represents 72 per cent. of the value of the land, in no instance does the value of the improvements exceed 79 per t. of the land values. The following are the values of each descrip-of property:

Classification.	Commonwealth States.	New Zealand.	Total.
	£	£	£
d	337,325,000	84,401,000	421,726,000
es and permanent improvements	248,528,000	54,190,000	302,718,000
tock	90,657,000	26,666,000	117,323,000
ture and household goods	28,838,000	5,100,000	33,938,000
nal effects	11,365,000	2,250,000	13,815,000
inery and implements of trade, ex-uding mining machinery	27,348,000	4,856,000	32,204,000
ning	5,562,000	1,908,000	7,470,000
ng properties	32,967,000	3,324,000	36,291,000
han ise in store	68,590,000	12,850,000	81,440,000
and bullion	28,311,000	4,010,000	32,321,000
Total	879,391,000	199,855,000	1,079,246,000

New South Wales, Queensland, and Western Australia, while residents of New South Wales are largely interested in Queensland properties, and if it were possible to locate the actual ownership of property throughout Australasia it would probably be found that the holdings both of Victoria and South Australia would be largely increased, and those of the other mainland States correspondingly diminished.

There is another important matter which may be considered at this place. A series of tables, which is elsewhere reproduced, shows that in reducing Government borrowings, Australasia stood indebted to British and foreign investors to the extent of £143,000,000, of which £125,386,000 was owing by the Commonwealth States, and £17,616,050 by New Zealand. Comparing these totals with the figures just given it will be found that absentees own 14½ per cent. of the property in the Commonwealth States, and 8¼ per cent. in New Zealand.

It is a somewhat prevalent practice amongst statisticians to make the valuations for probate purposes the basis of their estimates of the wealth of a country. If this course had been followed, it would have appeared that the total wealth of Australasia was £1,277,678,000, and the writer might have pointed out that his estimate was a very moderate one, being some 20 per cent. below the results obtained from the probate returns. No reliance whatever can be placed upon the returns of values of estates assumed for probate purposes, for such returns at best only profess to give the apparent amount of property left by deceased persons, without any allowance for debts. There is, however, some show of reason for using the valuation of estates for stamp-duty purposes, and these valuations are far below the values for probate purposes. During the last seven years the probate returns in New South Wales give a total of £38,615,000, while the sworn valuations of the very same estates for stamp duty was £20,488,000, and there can hardly be any doubt that all the other colonies would show similar discrepancies. Nor can any great reliance be placed upon estimates depending upon the amount of stamp-duty paid, for, unless the ages of the persons dying are also taken into consideration, such estimates are likely to prove fallacious, and as information concerning the ages of persons dying is not procurable except at excessive trouble, the idea of using the valuations for stamp duty for estimating the amount of wealth in the country has been abandoned. Over and above this the occurrence at irregular intervals of the deaths of very rich persons even if the ages had been procurable, would have had a disturbing effect on the calculations, as it can be readily imagined that, where the average number of deaths ranges from only one thousand in Western Australia to sixteen thousand in Victoria, an exceptionally large estate might grossly vitiate the average. In support of what is here stated, it may be pointed out that, as estimated by probates, the average wealth per inhabitant in Victoria during five years ranged from £325 to £610, and in New South Wales from £300 to £530. That such was actually the case involves a supposition too ridiculous to be for a moment

stribution of wealth not to be paralleled in any
nd in a country where so much is said about
and the rich richer, it is pleasing to find that
one in six is the possessor of property. Taking
toria is found the widest diffusion of wealth of
. South Australia comes next to Victoria; then
w South Wales, Western Australia, and Queens
nia. Too much stress may be laid on the apparently
wealth in one colony than in another, for it is
e with a stationary or decreasing population will
of a comparison of this kind more favourably than
pidly increasing population. Taking all things into
able is highly satisfactory, and should be additionally
circumstance that the ratio of distribution has been
regularly in every province of the group.

d Kingdom, during the five years 1890-94, the last
complete returns can be obtained, the number of estates
hich duty was paid was 257,351. Making the liberal
one-fourth for successions, of which the number is not
Statistical Abstract, the total estates would be 321,700,
with 3,595,447 deaths, or a little over 8·9 per cent., as
per cent. in Australasia during the same period. To
e distribution of property in these colonies, the following
even more useful than the figures just given. The com
le as for every hundred deaths of adult males, and for the
of deaths of adult males and females. This latter method
y the proper basis of comparison, as large numbers of
ssessors of a substantial amount of property:—

	Proportion of Estates per 100 deaths of adult males				Proportion of Estates per 100 deaths of adult males and females.			
	1880-84.	1885-89.	1890-94.	1885-94.	1890-84.	1885-89.	1890-94.	1885-94.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
es	34·6	37·5	41·2	42·6	22·3	23·8	25·8	26·1
.	38·8	39·7	49·8	57·1	23·4	24·2	30·2	33·4	
.. . .	18·3	23·1	28·6	26·6	13·8	16·9	20·2	18·4
	50·0	53·5	59·4	61·3	29·1	30·9	32·8	33·4
lia	29·5	29·3	31·2	26·9	19·8	19·6	21·1	21·2
....	26·0	31·6	33·2	25·5	15·8	19·4	20·1	14·2
wealth ...	34·6	37·0	42·1	45·2	22·0	23·4	26·1	27·7
			27·3	45·0	. .		16·7	27·0
ia	*34·6	*37·0	41·6	45·2	*22·0	*23·4	25·8	27·6

* Exclusive of New Zealand.

[illegible] E.

[illegible]

[illegible] At the close of 1899 [illegible] ries, or, more correctly [illegible] sidents, and owing by [illegible] to £370,075,000, or [illegible] £[illegible],002,000 represents the [illegible] standing liabilities of the [illegible] important in some respects [illegible] ments made in respect [illegible] The yearly interest [illegible] Australasian creditors [illegible] government debts. [illegible] estments may be stated [illegible] return on shares held in [illegible] total of £14,513,000, [illegible] to London.

[illegible] amount of investments by [illegible] may be divided into what [illegible] received subsequent to that [illegible] the opening year of latter- [illegible] of 1871 these colonies stood

	New Zealand	[illegible]
£	£	£
[illegible]	7,842,000	34,362,000
[illegible]	5,504,000	38,5[illegible]
[illegible]	13,346,000	72,[illegible]

[illegible] ess was:

	New Zealand.	[illegible]
£	£	£
[illegible]	39,800,000	192,711,000
[illegible]	12,112,000	104,408,000
[illegible]	51,912,000	297,119,000

[illegible] of the money brought by [illegible] the amount of such money [illegible] ar.

The interests of the various colonies are so intertwined that there is t a little difficulty in accurately determining the amount of capital ported on private account, in which each colony stands indebted to eat Britain. In former editions of this work such a distribution as made, but the changes that have taken place since 1893, in which ar the bank crisis occurred, have been so many and so extensive, at a separation of the respective interests of the various States is well gh impossible.

In considering the question of the annual payment made by Australa to Great Britain—which is its sole creditor—it is important to ve distinctly in view the fact that part of this income is payable respective of production, and part only arises when there has been tecedent production. In the first of these categories is the charge State and municipal borrowings to the amount already stated 8,680,000), and from two-fifths to a half of the income from private vestments, or, in round figures, £2,139,000—the two taken together aking a sum of £10,819,000, or £2 8s. 7d per inhabitant, which must exported entirely irrespective of the condition of productive industry. may here be remarked that there is another source of drainage from ese colonies to be considered in estimating the tributary stream flowg from Australasia to England—that is, the income of absentee lonists, which for 1899 probably reached £400,000, a figure very mall, relow that of previous years. The total payments to outside editors or investors during 1899 may be summarised as follow:—

	£
Payments on account of State or municipal borrowings, and on account of private investments on which interest must be paid irrespective of the condition of production	10,819,000
Return dependent on antecedent production	3,294,000
Absentee incomes	400,000
Total	14,513,000

Of the sum just given, £11,878,000 is paid by the States of the Commonwealth, and £2,635,000 by New Zealand.

From these figures it will be gathered that for the colonies to pay eir way there ought to be an excess of exports over imports equal the interest on loans outstanding and the earnings of investments hat is to say, if no capital were introduced and none withdrawn. t equilibrium in this respect is not to be looked for. Even now ere is a stream of capital coming to the colonies in excess of what withdrawn; and in the worst years several thousand persons arrive Australasia with the intention of settling, a large proportion of whom ing with them some little capital with which to begin their career in ir new home. In the foregoing pages the expression "capital introced" must be taken in a qualified sense. Under the condition of ilibrium between the introduction and withdrawal of capital, as

already demonstrated, Australasia would show an excess of exports representing the interest on State and other public loans and the profits due to private investors. This export for 1899 was about £14,513,000, and it is therefore plain that Australasia might increase its indebtedness to the extent of over fifteen millions in any one year and at the same time show an equality between its imports and exports. What this explanation is that it will not be difficult to understand how, in spite of the fact that during the last twenty-nine years the indebtedness of Australasia was increased by £297,119,000, the money or money's worth actually received, as represented by the excess of imports, was only £8,669,000. Such is the operation of interest as affecting a debtor country. In further explanation of this view of the matter the following figures are given: they refer to the borrowings of the Governments and local bodies during the twenty-nine years 1871–99.

State	Borrowings of State and Local Government Bodies	Interest on State and Local Government Loans	Net Amount of Merchandise Imports
	£	£	£
New South Wales	49,685,000	37,322,000	12,363,000
Victoria	41,617,000	39,634,000	1,983,000
Queensland	27,649,000	21,733,000	5,916,000
South Australia	21,082,000	18,551,000	2,531,000
Western Australia	6,739,000	1,970,000	4,769,000
Tasmania	9,748,000	5,177,000	4,571,000
New Zealand	36,800,000	42,488,000	(–) 5,688,000
Australasia	192,711,000	164,675,000	28,036,000

It will be seen that out of loans aggregating £192,711,000 there only £28,036,000 reached Australasia, the balance of £164,675,000 being retained in London to meet interest charges, as a set off against a similar sum which otherwise it would have been necessary to remit from Australasia. The figures in regard to private borrowings are still more striking:

	£
Private borrowings in excess of withdrawals	104,408,000
Capital introduced by persons taking up their abode in the colonies	25,369,000
Total inflow of capital	£129,777,000
Earnings of investments of non-residents and incomes of absentees in excess of income derived by residents in the colonies from investments abroad	149,144,000
Excess of outflow over inflow	£19,367,000

It will be seen that, leaving out of consideration the capital introduced
immigrants, the return to investors, together with absentee incomes
exceeded by nearly forty millions the amount invested in Australa
, although of the principal sum, £104,408,000, still remains due.
ay be difficult to conceive how such a result has been possible, but
difficulty will be lessened when it is remembered that at the beginning
he period embraced in the tables the Australasian colonies were
ady paying an annual tribute to private investors of £3,517,000,
therefore, on account of debts incurred and investments made prior
871 something like 95 millions might have been paid away during
ast twenty-nine years without any reduction in the principal owing.
he movement of capital towards Australasia up to the end of 1870
ented no features of unusual importance, for the total sum received,
igh large, representing as it did rather more than £38 per inhabitant,
not larger than might reasonably have been expected to be intro-
d into a country so rapidly adding to its population and so fertile
sources. During this period the investments on private account
by the various Governments were almost equal in amount, but in
twenty five years that followed, the borrowing operations of the
ernments far outstripped private investments. The following table
s the borrowings of the State and on private account up to the end
870, and in five-year periods subsequent to that date :

Period.	Money raised by Government or Local Bodies.	Private Investments, excluding Immigrants' Capital.	Total.
	£	£	£
Prior to 1871	34,362,000	38,594,000	72,956,000
1871-75	20,999,000	*2,392,000	18,607,000
1876-80	32,804,000	11,407,000	44,211,000
1881-85	40,944,000	37,186,000	84,130,000
1886-90	53,374,000	49,077,000	102,451,000
1891-95	28,653,000	*1,322,000	27,331,000
1896-99	9,937,000	10,452,000	20,389,000
Total	227,073,000	143,002,000	370,075,000

* Excess of withdrawals over investments.

the foregoing table the importation of capital by immigrants
been neglected ; if this be taken into consideration, the figures

given in the next table show the full amount for the period subsequent to 1870:—

Period.	Total Capital Introduced.
	£
1871–75	23,010,000
1876–80	48,959,000
1881–85	90,504,000
1886–90	107,088,000
1891–95	30,705,000
1896–99	22,222,000
Total	£322,488,000

The total indebtedness of Australasia to British investors has been set down in the foregoing pages as £370,075,000, and the annual return therefrom, excluding absentee incomes, £14,115,000. The capital sum represents a weight of £83 2s. 10d. per inhabitant, and the annual return £[illegible]. The apparent interest earned is, therefore, only a little short of 4 per cent., a rate which must be considered very favourable, seeing that £[illegible],075,000 or three-fifths of the total, comprise Government and Municipal securities. The indebtedness of the States of the Commonwealth to British creditors amounts to £304,817,000 or £82 8s. per inhabitant, of which £[illegible],431,000 is due by the central and local governing bodies, and £125,386,000 represents private investments. The indebtedness of New Zealand is £65,258,000 or £87 per inhabitant, of which £47,642,000 is owing by the central and local governing bodies, and £17,616,000 represents private investments.

From the table given above showing the total amount of money, including that brought to the country by immigrants, introduced during each quinquennial period since 1870, it will be seen that the net introduction of capital during the first period was £23,010,000, and of this New Zealand received £10,707,000, or nearly one-half, principally the proceeds of Governmental borrowings, the withdrawals of private capital being nearly as large as the amount introduced. Queensland and New South Wales had, during the period, an accession of capital to the extent of £4,329,000 and £4,321,000 respectively. In the one case the sum obtained by the State was £2,389,000, and by the public, £1,940,000, while in the other case the sum introduced by the State was £[illegible],861,000, and by private persons something less than £1,500,000. The net sum introduced into Victoria was £2,98[illegible],000, the State having imported £3,352,000, while the export of private capital was some £370,000. Tasmania received in all £1,210,000, of which £220,000 was introduced by the State, and nearly one million by private persons, which must be reckoned a very considerable sum in view of the [illegible]ness of the population of the island. Nearly the whole su[illegible]ced into Western Australia (£400,000) was by the

Government. South Australia, even so far back as 1871-75, was in a very different position to the other colonies in regard to private investments. During the five years the State introduced £1,722,000, but £2,661,000 was withdrawn by lenders or sent out of the colony for investment. Speaking generally, the period 1871 to 1875 was marked by large public borrowing, with a very moderate influx of private capital. During the period the importation by the various Governments amounted to £2 per inhabitant yearly, the private investments being not more than 4s. per inhabitant.

The period from 1876 to 1880 showed a net importation of capital to the amount of £48,959,000, or more than twice the sum received during the preceding five years. Of the sum named, New Zealand received £15,450,000, or slightly less than one-third, although its population was only one-eighth of the whole of Australasia. The larger portion of the money brought to New Zealand was in the shape of Government loans, which amounted to £10,884,000, the net sum received on account of private investment being £4,512,000. New South Wales stood next as regards the amount of capital received, but the borrowing by the State and local bodies only amounted to £5,458,000, or half the sum raised by New Zealand, while the private investments amounted to about £8,170,000, of which nearly two millions were received with immigrants taking up their permanent abode in the colony. The total capital imported into New South Wales during the five years was £13,626,000. Queensland received £7,928,000 during the period—an enormous sum, considering that the population was not more than 150,000. The money imported by the Government of that colony was £4,980,000, and that invested by private persons, £3,048,000. The Victorian Government imported £5,229,000, while the sum sent to the colony by private investors, over and above the amount withdrawn, was £1,949,000. The South Australian Government borrowed largely during the five years, the sum raised being £5,217,000, but, as in the previous period, the sum withdrawn by investors or sent to other colonies for investment exceeded the capital introduced by £1,644,000. Both Tasmania and Western Australia received less capital from abroad from 1876 to 1880 than in the previous five years, the amounts being £954,000 and £204,000 respectively. The Government borrowings were £671,000 in the one case and £365,000 in the other, but in Tasmania there was an investment of £283,000 by private persons, and a withdrawal of £161,000 in the case of Western Australia. Taking Australasia as a whole, the public borrowings during 1876-80 were large, amounting to £32,804,000, or a yearly sum of about £2 12s. per inhabitant. The import of private money continued on a more extended scale, the sum received in excess of withdrawals being £16,155,000, but nearly five millions of this sum were brought in by immigrants.

The facility with which New Zealand had been able to raise money on loan during the five years 1876-80 was an object lesson not lost on the other colonies, for during the five years from 1881 to 1885 the sum

of £46,944,000 was raised by the various Governments and local bodies, while private investors, banks, and financial institutions poured money at an almost equal rate, the net sum received on private account being, in round figures, £43,560,000. These sums represent yearly amounts of £3 2s. 4d. and £2 18s. 1d., or together over £6 per head—a rate of increase in indebtedness quite unparalleled in any country except in the next succeeding five years of Australasian history. Of the large sum of £90,504,000 received by these colonies, the share of New South Wales was £30,473,000. In the light of this statement it is easy to understand how, during this same period, through, one of drought and restricted production, the industrial life of the colony was marked by increasing wages, shorter hours, and full employment. The importation by the State amounted to £16,066,000, and by private investors to £14,107,000, but of the sum last quoted £2,719,000 represented the money brought by immigrants and entailed no further cost to the colony for future interest to be exported. This period was, so far as New South Wales is concerned, the one marked by the most lavish borrowing by the State, though it yields to the subsequent quinquennium in regard to the importation of private capital. Queensland was the colony next to New South Wales in receipt of most money during the period under review, the Government of that colony having got hold of £7,094,000, while private investments amounted to £12,500,000—enormous sums for a population of a quarter of a million. Included in the private investments, however, is the sum of £1,927,000 introduced by immigrants taking up their abode permanently in the colony. The imports of capital into New Zealand during the quinquennium were still very heavy, amounting to £7,442,000 by the State and £10,475,000 on private account, or £17,917,000 in all. Of the private importation, £587,000 accompanied the owners who settled in the colony. The capital received by Victoria, which in the two preceding periods amounted to very moderate sums, now rose to £13,000,000, viz., £8,519,000 on account of the Government, and £4,483,000 by private investors. The South Australian Government in 1881–85 was still a large borrower, £5,895,000 being raised and expended during that time, while, contrary to the experiences of previous periods, there was an importation on private account of £1,000,000. Tasmania also considerably increased its borrowings, the State raising £1,465,000 in the five years, while £425,000 was sent to the colony for investment or was received with the owners. The borrowing of the Western Australian Government for 1881–85 amounted to £463,000, but not more than £265,000 was received for private investment, or in all £728,000.

The next period, 1886–90, was marked by very extraordinary features. The average population of the seven colonies was 3,540,000, yet during the short space of five years the various States governing these people raised and expended £53,374,000, while an additional sum of £53,713,000 was received for investment on private account, or was introduced into

the country by persons who made it their abode But even more astonishment will be evinced on considering the detailed figures for each colony. Of the large total received by the seven colonies, considerably more than one-half -£54,690,000—was obtained by Victoria, and, as the population of this colony during the five years under review was 1,070,000, the inflow of capital amounted to over £51 per inhabitant. The State and local bodies borrowed and disbursed £16,987,000, which was the largest expenditure from the proceeds of loans that any colony contrived to crowd into the short space of five years. The private capital introduced was £35,792,000, and the sum brought by persons taking up their abode in the country was £1,911,000. These figures afford a sufficient clue to the astounding impetus which trade received during these years, and the corresponding rise in land values New South Wales, though not the recipient of so much money as its southern neighbour, nevertheless contrived to obtain £28,145,000—a far larger sum than could be conveniently absorbed in five years, especially as in the like preceding period £30,000,000 was absorbed. The capital introduced represented £11,571,000 of Government borrowings, £15,187,000 of private investments, and £1,387,000 brought by persons making New South Wales their home. The Queensland Government was also a large borrower, its loan expenditure during the five years, 1886 90, being not less than £9,581,000. The private capital introduced, however, fell off largely. The sum received, allowing for withdrawals to the amount of £3,360,000, was £1,574,000. The flow of private money to New Zealand practically ceased during the period now under consideration, amounting only to £632,000, as compared with £10,475,000 in the preceding five years: but Government borrowings still continued, and a sum of £6,560,000 was raised and expended. South Australia occupied an exceptional position, for though the Government introduced some £5,693,000, there was a large withdrawal of private capital, or, as it may be, an export of capital for investment in other colonies, so that the net import on public and private account amounted to £1,345,000. Tasmania, with its population of 150,000, was well in the struggle for British investments, the State importation being £2,557,000, and the investment by private persons, £570,000; of this last sum £85,000 was introduced by persons taking up their abode in the colony. It was about this period, too, that Western Australia began to attract attention as a field for investment, for over and above the sum of £425,000 introduced by the Government, about £1,009,000 was invested by private persons, perhaps one-fifth of the amount being accompanied by the investors themselves.

The recitation of borrowing just given brings the financial history of the Australias down to the close of 1890. Two years more of credit and investment remain to be traced, after which came the collapse of credit, and the events of May, 1893, still fresh in the public memory. That two years elapsed after the close of 1890 before Australasian public credit in London finally collapsed is true only of Victoria, and

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Taking the whole period of five years, there was a total of £30,705,000 introduced. Of this sum, £28,653,000 represents the borrowings of the various Governments and local bodies, the share of each being as follows :—

New South Wales	£11,675,000
Victoria	5,450,000
Queensland	2,996,000
South Australia	638,000
Western Australia	2,201,000
Tasmania	1,835,000
New Zealand	3,808,000
Australasia	£28,653,000

Even in this period immigration did not entirely cease, and it is estimated that an amount of £3,374,000 was introduced by persons who took up their permanent abode in the country.

The withdrawal of capital from Australia practically ceased in 1895, and in the two following years there was a considerable amount introduced chiefly to Western Australia, where the goldfields claimed much attention from English mining speculators. During the four years ending with 1899, State and municipal borrowings amounted to £9,937,000, and £12,283,000 was introduced on private account, including £1,853,000 brought to the country by the owners. The total introduction of capital, therefore, amounted to £22,220,000.

In speaking of the British capital invested in Australasia no mention has been made of the amount lost by the owners in unprofitable speculations, of which there have been not a few. From the nature of the case the sum total of those losses cannot be stated with any degree of accuracy, but there is no reason to suppose that the proportion is greater than would have occurred in like investments if made in the British Isles.

INCOME.

The incomes received by the people of Australasia can be determined with considerable accuracy, as the information available for such an estimate is fairly extensive. For New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, and New Zealand there are income-tax figures, in Queensland and Tasmania particulars of collections under dividend and income-tax duty, and for several colonies very full returns relating to land values. Besides these direct sources of information there are official estimates of incomes for New South Wales and New Zealand. Excluding the revenues of the various State Governments, the yearly income derived from Australasia amounts to £201,497,000, and of this sum local residents draw £186,984,000, and British investors and absentees £14,513,000,

...o categories, viz., those below and those ...ting results are obtained, the figures ...80,000 paid to debenture-holders :—

...ber ...ons ...mes £200 ...over.	Total Incomes £200 and over.	Total Incomes under £200.	Total of all Incomes.
No.	£	£	£
31,220	17,894,000	45,596,000	63,490,000
19,060	10,080,000	39,748,000	49,828,000
6,600	3,438,000	9,200,000	12,638,000
16,630	9,208,000	26,847,000	36,055,000
73,510	40,620,000	121,391,000	162,011,000
15,400	8,624,000	22,182,000	30,806,000
88,910	49,244,000	143,573,000	192,817,000

...come derived from private sources (that is to say, ... payments made by the various governments and ...ir debenture-holders), is thus £192,817,000, and of ...833,000, or slightly over 3 per cent., is drawn by non-...dition to the sum of £8,680,000 paid to debenture-... incomes from investments drawn from New South Wales ...£2,530,000, or 4 per cent. of the total incomes; from ...1,228,000, or 2½ per cent.; £704,000, or 2¼ per cent., ...Zealand; and £1,371,000, or 2¾ per cent., from the other

Old Age Pensions.

...ion of granting pensions to aged persons unable to earn ...od has been of late years much discussed in New South ...oria, and some of the other states, while in New Zealand ...ension system has been in operation for two years. In ...d, every person of the full age of sixty-five years, or ...entitled to a pension, provided he has resided continuously ...y for twenty-five years, certain concessions in regard to ...ing made in favour of seamen and others. To be entitled ..., a person must not possess an income in excess of £52 a ...roperty exceeding £270 in value. There are also other ..., principally affecting good citizenship. The full pension ...ear, payable in monthly instalments. For each £1 of ...e £34 a year, and for each £15 of property above £50, £1 ...is deducted from the amount of the pension. In March,

1900 there were [illegible] New Zealand whose ages ex[illegible] sixty-five years, and of these [illegible] had already been granted pe[illegible] [illegible] in sums ranging from £1 t[illegible] [illegible] and the sum pay[illegible] [illegible] management, is £193,718. [illegible] pensions varies [illegible] [illegible] partly to the differences [illegible] age and partly to th[illegible] [illegible] industry, few perso[illegible] [illegible] reach sixty-five years. [illegible] over sixty-five years [illegible] [illegible] proportion of pension[illegible] [illegible] is about 58 per cent. [illegible] number of pensioner[illegible] [illegible] considerably durin[illegible]

[illegible] the Parliament of [illegible] year diminished by £1 [illegible] by £1 for every £1 [illegible] a husband and wif[illegible] [illegible] at £19 10s. a year [illegible] the Court or a dee[illegible] [illegible] showed. A calcula[illegible] [illegible] the following [illegible] New Zealand. The fig[illegible] [illegible] year 1901 for New So[illegible]

[illegible]	New Zealand	New South Wales
[illegible]	22,509	38,933
[illegible]	19,4[illegible]	35,399
[illegible]	11,2[illegible]	22,692

[illegible] of the persons 65 years [illegible] [illegible] the proposals of the N[illegible] [illegible] the 22,692 persons refer[illegible] [illegible] 4,612 married persons liv[illegible] [illegible] making a due deduction fr[illegible] [illegible] possessed by the pensioners, [illegible] [illegible] £[illegible] 4s. per head, and the to[illegible] [illegible] of the colony are such that [illegible] sixty-five years and upwa[illegible] [illegible] will be very little short [illegible]

47,000, and the number for whom pension provision must be made in 1906 will be 30,100, and the total pensions payable £698,785.

In some of the other colonies the proportion of aged persons is much larger than in New South Wales, as the following figures, based upon a calculation of the number of survivors of the persons aged fifty five years at the census of 1891, plainly show :—

State	Males.	Females.	Total
Victoria	35,027	25,623	60,650
New South Wales	22,785	16,148	38,933
Queensland	7,081	4,316	11,397
South Australia	6,655	6,582	13,237
Western Australia	1,603	631	2,234
Tasmania	3,707	3,043	6,750
Commonwealth	76,858	56,343	133,201

If the New South Wales proportion of persons eligible for pensions holds good, and there is every reason to suppose it does, then the number of persons who could claim pensions in the year 1901 would be 77,630, and the total pension roll £1,800,000. If, however, the more limited pension scheme of New Zealand be adopted by the Commonwealth, then the number of pensioners would be somewhat reduced, and the total pensions payable would stand at £1,175,000.

Banking.

The laws relating to banks and banking at present in force are susceptible of great improvement, and in 1893 the failure of many monetary institutions which posed as banks directed attention to the urgent necessity for entirely revising the conditions under which deposits might be taken from the general public, but so far no new legislation has been enacted. All institutions transacting the business of banking are required by law to furnish, in a specified form, quarterly statements of their assets and liabilities, and from these statements and the periodic balance-sheets the tables in this chapter have been compiled. The returns furnished by the banks, though in compliance with the laws of the colonies, are by no means satisfactory, being quite unsuited to the modern methods of transacting banking business, and they cannot be accepted without question as indicating the stability or instability of the institutions by which they are issued. As a rule, nothing can be elicited beyond what is shown in the half-yearly or yearly balance sheets. No uniformity is observed as regards the dates of closing the accounts, and the modes of presentation are equally diverse. Important

items which should be specifically stated are included with others of [illegible] import, and, as a rule, current accounts are blended with other [illegible] instead of being separately shown. The value of the information [illegible] to the public is illustrated by the fact that it was impossible to obtain from the publications of several institutions [illegible] payment in 1893 the amount of their liabilities either to the public or the State, and these particulars were never disclosed.

Capital Resources of Banks.

According to the latest information published, the paid up capital of the twenty two banks operating in Australasia is £[illegible], of which £[illegible] inclusive of £[illegible] guaranteed to the Bank of New Zealand by the Government [illegible] has a preferential claim on the profits of the [illegible] be found a statement of the ordinary and [illegible] bank at the date shown, with the [illegible]. In the case of several [illegible] are reserves which are [illegible] and of these no [illegible]

				Capital paid up		
				[illegible]	Total	[illegible]
				100,000		

[illegible] of the capital account at date [illegible] had made calls on their share [illegible] up capital. The amount of these

and the total working capital that will be available when they are are appended :—

Bank.	Capital paid and being called up.		
	Paid up.	Being called	Total Working Capital.
	£	£	£
ian Joint Stock Bank (Limited)	1,168,042	6,473	1,174,515
of Adelaide	400,000		400,000
of Australasia	1,600,000		1,600,000
of New South Wales	2,000,000		2,000,000
of New Zealand	2,019,519	80,481	2,100,000
of North Queensland (Limited)	100,000		100,000
of Victoria (Limited)	1,477,477	533	1,478,010
k of Sydney	400,000		400,000
of Banks of Australasia (Limited)	402,436	36,844	439,280
ercial Bank of Australia (Limited)	3,202,121	586,853	3,789,174
ercial Banking Company of Sydney (Limited)	1,000,000		1,000,000
ercial Bank of Tasmania (Limited)	141,493		141,493
, Scottish, and Australian Bank (Limited)	539,437		539,437
of Bank of Australia (Limited)	914,915	1,750	916,665
of Bank of Australasia (Limited)	1,975,196		1,975,196
of Bank of New Zealand (Limited)	250,000		250,000
of Bank of Tasmania (Limited)	152,040		152,040
and National Bank (Limited)	412,773	2,475	415,248
Bank of Australia (Limited)	150,000		150,000
Bank of Queensland (Limited)	385,187	1,463	386,650
Bank of Australia (Limited)	1,500,000		1,500,000
of Australian Bank	100,000		100,000

e paid-up capital of the banking companies now operating in alasia has increased from £14,724,587 before the crisis to 90,838, or by £64,266,251. In 1893, however, there were in nce two banks, with a combined capital of £900,000, which are defunct: and it should also be mentioned that capital to the amount 5,418,000 has been written off during the last seven years.

Liabilities and Assets of Banks.

e liabilities of the banks enumerated, at the dates which have previously given, totalled £140,237,662, against which amount aggregating £167,387,005 were shown. The following table the liabilities of each institution to the public, notes in circulation deposits being distinguished from other liabilities. In some small items which should be classed with "other liabilities" are led with deposits, as they cannot be distinguished in the balance-

[illegible] and in the case of the Commercial Bank of Austral[illegible] [illegible] the accounts of the assets trust have been excluded.

Bank.	Notes in Circulation.	Deposits.	Other Liabilities to Public.	Total Liabilities to Public.
	£	£	£	£
[illegible] Joint Stock Bank (Limited)	115,015	6,[illegible]	524,103	[illegible]
Bank of Adelaide	12[illegible]	2,1[illegible]	104,[illegible]	[illegible]
Bank of Australasia	4[illegible],103	[illegible]	3,04[illegible]	[illegible]
Bank of New South Wales	[illegible]	21,[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bank of New Zealand	[illegible]	[illegible]	894,751	[illegible]
Bank of North Queensland (Limited)		[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bank of Victoria (Limited)	134,[illegible]	[illegible]	55[illegible],101	[illegible]
[illegible] Bank of Sydney	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Bank of Australasia (Limited)	11[illegible]	2,[illegible]	111,[illegible]	[illegible]
Commercial Bank of Australia (Limited)	[illegible]	3,[illegible]	2[illegible]	[illegible]
Commercial Banking Company of Sydney (Ltd.)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Commercial Bank of Tasmania (Limited)	[illegible]	[illegible]		[illegible]
English, Scottish and Australian Bank (Ltd.)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
London Bank of Australia (Limited)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
National Bank of Australasia (Limited)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
National Bank of New Zealand (Limited)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
National Bank of Tasmania (Limited)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Queensland National Bank (Limited)		[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Bank of Tasmania (Limited)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Royal Bank of Queensland (Limited)		[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Union Bank of Australia (Limited)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Western Australian Bank	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	2,[illegible]

The assets of each bank [illegible]

Bank.	[illegible]	Advances.	Other Assets.	Total Assets.
		£	£	£
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

[illegible] Working of Banks.

[illegible] for the latest period for wh[illegible] [illegible]. With the exception of the [illegible] of New Zealand, the English, Scottish, and

ralian Bank, the London Bank of Australia, and the National of New Zealand, for which the figures refer to twelve months' ations, the amounts given cover a period of six months. The dates e balance sheets are as shown on page 740 :—

Bank.	Class of Shares.	Amount brought forward.	Net Profits less Rebate on Bills current	Dividend paid. Rate per cent. per annum.	Dividend paid. Amount.	Amount transferred to Reserve Fund, &c.	Amount carried forward
		£	£		£	£	£
ian Joint Stock Bank (Ltd.)..	Ordinary	10,007	2,657				12,064
Adelaide	,,	*1,988	38,413	†8	†18,000	5,000	17,401
Australasia	,,	10,282	110,871	8	64,000	35,000	11,153
New South Wales	,,	20,017	99,859	9	90,000	3,595	26,281
New Zealand .	Preferential	50,000	145,020				50,000
	Ordinary						
North Queensland (Limited)	Ordinary	9	3,458	2½	1,313	2,000	154
Victoria (Limited)	Preferential	24,736	28,[illegible]	5	10,419		29,605
	Ordinary .			2½	15,206		
nk of Sydney	Ordinary ..	9,311	8,041	4	8,000		9,352
Bank of Australasia (Ltd.)	Preferential	1,017	8,833	4	6,081	‡2,361	2,008
	Ordinary						
rcial Bank of Australia (Ltd.)	Preferential	13,843	58,265	3	31,756		10,352
	Ordinary						
rcial Banking Co. of Sydney ited)	Ordinary	19,272	50,879	10	50,000		20,151
rcial Bank of Tasmania (Ltd.)	,,	1,634	6,827	7	6,200	1,500	1,761
, Scottish, and Australian k (Limited) . .	,,	6,084	15,411			6,034	15,411
Bank of Australia (Limited)	Preferential	4,572	15,057	5½	9,456	. . .	10,173
	Ordinary						
l Bank of Australasia (Ltd.)	Preferential	63,718	22,152	5	7,644	68,000	10,226
	Ordinary						
l Bank of New Zealand (Ltd.)	Ordinary	5,161	*33,848	†9	†12,500	20,000	7,500
l Bank of Tasmania (Limited)	,,	3,450	[illegible]	5	3,931		4,087
land National Bank (Limited)	,,		12,000		1,000	9,000	
Bank of Australia (Limited)	,,	3,258	5,863	4	3,000		6,121
Bank of Queensland (Limited)	,,	2,[illegible]	8,383	2½	7,050	5,000	422
Bank of Australia (Limited)	,,	30,363	92,002	7	52,500	50,000	19,865
Australian Bank	,,	14,278	11,779	17½	8,750		17,307

* After paying interim dividend. † Including bonus of 1 per cent. per annum.
‡ Additional interest on deferred deposit receipts.

e net profit shown for the Bank of New Zealand is exclusive of the end paid on preference shares and interest on guaranteed stock. amounts appropriated in reduction of the book value of assets in lation, in reduction of debenture conversion account, and in reduc- of Colonial Bank purchase goodwill account are also excluded. amount brought forward was paid to the Assets Realisation Board. the amount carried forward will also be paid to the same Board. ividend paid by the Queensland National Bank represents a repay- to the Government of that colony in terms of the scheme of gement, and the amount transferred to reserve fund, &c., includes 00 paid to private depositors' repayment fund. The net profit n for the London Bank of Australia is exclusive of the interest

on "Transferable Fixed Deposits" which amounted to £115,640. The dividend tax payable by the two Tasmanian banks and the Royal Bank of Queensland has been included in the amount of dividend shown in the tables.

Banking Business of each Colony.

Of the twenty-two banks operating in Australasia at the beginning of 1900, thirteen had offices in New South Wales, eleven in Victoria, eleven in Queensland, seven in South Australia, six in Western Australia, four in Tasmania, and five in New Zealand. There were only two banks doing business in all the seven colonies, one transacted business in six colonies, one in five colonies, two in four, two in three, four in two, and ten banks did not extend their business beyond the limits of one colony.

The liabilities and assets of the twenty-two banks of issue operating in the different colonies during the June quarter of 1900 are shown in the following tables. The total liabilities of the banks are given as £111,875,347, and the assets as £132,800,280, showing a surplus of assets of £20,924,963. If the returns gave all the facts in relation to the operations of the banks, this surplus should represent the capital or funds provided out of their own resources, but as the capital and reserve funds amount to £26,745,411, it is evident that there is a balance of about £5,820,448 to be otherwise accounted for. This sum represents part of the deposits obtained in Australasia and used in the London business of the banks, the British deposits with Australasian banks having decreased to about fourteen millions. The following figures will convey some notion of the business transacted within each colony. It should be noted that under the heading of deposits bearing interest has been included perpetual inscribed stock of the English, Scottish, and Australian Bank (Limited), to the amount of £[illegible], namely, £700,758 in New South Wales, £442,090 in Victoria, £326,754 in South Australia, and £115,013 in Queensland.

State	Notes in circulation not bearing Interest	Bills in circulation not bearing Interest	Deposits		Balances due to other Banks, &c.	Total Liabilities
			Not bearing Interest	Bearing Interest		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	1,[illegible]941	218,949	12,078,711	19,[illegible]521	61,[illegible]335	34,[illegible]457
Victoria	930,244	[illegible]07,[illegible]16	12,[illegible]550	17,[illegible]730	140,[illegible]349	31,[illegible]734
Queensland	[illegible]54,[illegible]191	5,[illegible]45,781	8,[illegible]686	857,[illegible]46	1[illegible]4,[illegible]0[illegible]	
South Australia	709,304	1,[illegible]75	2,762,[illegible]50	[illegible],[illegible]6[illegible]	61,329	6,[illegible]79
Western Australia	2[illegible],141	5[illegible],432	[illegible],[illegible]61	1,[illegible]42,[illegible]22	61,[illegible]17	4,81[illegible],[illegible]3
Tasmania	1,[illegible]4,[illegible]2	19,[illegible]75	1,[illegible],[illegible]40	1,[illegible],[illegible]69		3,[illegible],[illegible]9[illegible]
Commonwealth	3,[illegible]55,[illegible]12	4[illegible],[illegible]26	47,[illegible],[illegible]40	[illegible],[illegible],[illegible]40	[illegible]5,[illegible]16	94,[illegible],[illegible]52
New Zealand	1,[illegible],[illegible]50	48,[illegible]89	7,[illegible],[illegible]02	8,[illegible],[illegible]07	[illegible]8,[illegible]51	17,[illegible],[illegible]84
Total	4,[illegible],[illegible]02	514,[illegible]94	45,[illegible],[illegible]47	6[illegible],[illegible],[illegible]47	454,[illegible]67	111,[illegible],[illegible]17

he preceding table shows that about 95 per cent. of the Australasian lities of the banks consisted of deposits, viz., £106,388,594 out of 1,875,317. The statements by banks in each colony, with the ption of Tasmania, distinguish between deposits at call and deposits ing interest. In Tasmania, although not obliged by law to do so, a lar distinction has been made by two banks out of four, and ming that in the case of the other two banks the proportion of sits at call to the total deposits is the same, the total deposits at are as stated in the table, viz., £45,217,047, or 42·5 per cent. of eposits.

he assets for the same period are shown below. Certain assets of l amount, not classifiable under any of the sub-heads of the table, been included in the total, and in the case of one colony technical statements of the assets of some of the banks have been rectified. value of landed property in Victoria is inclusive of the interest of Commercial Bank of Australia (Limited), in the Special Assets t Company (Limited). Also, under the heading of "Notes and of other banks," etc., are included Queensland Treasury Notes to amount of £618,427 :—

State.	Coin.	Bullion.	Landed Property.	Notes and Bills discounted, and all other Debts due to the Banks.	Notes and Bills of other Banks, and Balances due from other Banks.	Total Assets.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
outh Wales	6,864,040	263,901	1,868,320	32,921,475	634,359	42,552,095
ia	7,961,740	386,944	2,825,643	29,679,951	520,945	41,375,223
sland . ..	1,586,899	318,595	727,824	12,609,946	894,198	16,136,953
Australia . ..	1,662,026	11,989	474,285	4,244,161	71,954	6,464,415
rn Australia.. ..	2,363,211	231,674	198,564	2,739,295	272,529	5,805,273
nia	620,583	...	126,082	2,383,847	231,719	3,362,231
ommonwealth	21,058,599	1,213,103	6,220,718	84,578,675	2,625,704	115,696,799
aland	2,613,773	121,262	450,696	13,836,584	81,175	17,103,490
ustralasia .	23,672,363	1,334,365	6,671,414	98,415,259	2,706,879	132,800,280

Metallic Reserves of Banks.

The following table shows the metallic reserves held by the banks as against their total Australasian liabilities, and also against their liabilities at call, viz., deposits at call and note circulation. The table, however, cannot be taken as complete, as some banks receiving deposits in England and elsewhere do not include such liabilities in their returns:—

State	Coin and Bullion.	Total Liabilities.	Liabilities at Call.	Proportion of Coin and Bullion	
				To Total Liabilities.	To Liabilities at Call.
	£	£	£	per cent.	per cent.
New South Wales	7,128,341	34,269,857	14,310,052	20 80	49 81
Victoria	8,348,084	31,818,273	13,639,829	26 24	61 21
Queensland	1,904,985	13,524,038	5,048,781	14 08	37 73
South Australia	1,674,015	6,763,226	3,161,396	24 75	52 96
Western Australia	2,594,885	4,845,603	3,271,032	53 55	79 33
Tasmania	620,583	3,348,036	1,714,062	18 53	36 20
Commonwealth	22,271,693	94,569,933	41,145,152	23 55	54 13
New Zealand	2,735,035	17,305,384	8,591,757	15 80	31 83
Australasia	25,006,728	111,875,317	49,736,909	22 35	50 28

It will be seen that Queensland apparently holds the weakest position in the proportion of cash reserves to total liabilities, and New Zealand in proportion to liabilities at call. This, however, means very little, seeing that in some of the colonies many banks profess to hold gold largely in excess of their wishes or requirements.

Expenses of Banking.

The balance sheets of banks, as presented to the shareholders, do not usually contain details likely to satisfy the inquirer curious to discover the amount of gross profits as compared with the net amount divisible amongst shareholders. Allowing the same proportion of expenses in the banks not disclosing this information as for those concerning which particulars are available, the following results are obtained for the last working year dealt with in the preceding pages:—

Total trading assets	£130,175,000
Capital and reserves	26,745,700
Gross earnings, less reserve for bad and doubtful debts	5,834,300
Gross expenditure, including interest	4,612,300
Net earnings	1,222,000

Compared with the total assets, the net earnings represent 0·73 per cent.; and compared with the banks' own resources, i.e., capital and reserved profits, 4·57 per cent. The gross expenditure above set down may be divided into expenses of management, £1,981,300, and interest, £2,631,000; these together amount to 79·1 per cent. of the gross earnings, the management expenses being 34·0 per cent., and the interest 45·1 per cent. It would appear, therefore, that for every £1 of net earnings, the sum of £1 12s. 5d. is spent in management expenses, and £2 3s. 1d. in interest. The cost of working banking institutions in Australia is undoubtedly very large; but this class of business is everywhere expensive, and an analysis of the balance-sheets of some thirty British banks shows that the expenses of management amount to nearly 14s. 3d. for every £1 of net earnings.

Compared with their resources, the net earnings of Australasian banks are far less than those of English banks, as will appear from the following statement, which gives the rate per cent. per annum of earnings compared with total resources, including, of course, deposits and issue, as well as shareholders' capital and reserves.—

	£	s.	d.
Bank of England	1	11	1
English Provincial Banks	1	7	8
Irish Banks	1	10	2
London Banks	1	7	9
Banks of Isle of Man and Channel Islands	1	4	3
Scotch Banks	1	3	1
Banks trading in Australasia	0	16	1

The expense of banking in Australasia is largely due to the number of branches open throughout the country; thus in Australasia there are 1,429 banks and branches, or one to every 3,000 persons, while in England the proportion is one bank to 8,500 persons (exclusive of private banks), in Scotland one to every 4,000, and in Ireland one to every 7,700.

Investment Companies.

In addition to the Banks of Issue, there are numerous Savings Banks, and Land, Building, Investment, Trading, and Commercial Companies receiving money on deposit and transacting much of the business usually undertaken only by banks of issue. The land, building, and other trading companies were presumed to be in a flourishing condition even as late as the year 1890. Their dividends to shareholders were very large, and the rates allowed on deposits were considerably in excess of those current in the banks of issue. As might be expected, the high interest offered was too tempting a bait to be resisted by a section of the investing public, and large sums were placed in these institutions

with the utmost confidence that they would be available when required. This confidence, unfortunately, proved to be, in many instances, unmerited. The shrinkage of land values, and the depreciation of real estate generally, put an end to all unsound institutions working on speculative lines, as well as to some other companies that were conducted on reasonable principles. The difficulties into which the deposit companies fell may for the most part be attributed to their practice of borrowing money for short periods, and locking it up for long terms. Besides this, however, many so-called building societies indulged in speculative land purchases, and having retailed the land at enhanced prices, with payments over extended periods, proceeded to divide the presumed profits among the shareholders, with a result that might easily have been foreseen, for in many cases the purchasers, after paying a few instalments toward the price, left the allotments on the hands of the companies, whose anticipated profits were therefore purely visionary, and whose dividends were really never earned, but, in many instances, were merely taken from the deposits.

Savings Banks.

The Savings Banks are on a very different footing, being to a greater or less extent under State control and otherwise safeguarded, so that they enjoy public confidence. The institutions classed as Savings Banks may be divided into two kinds—those worked in conjunction with the Post Office, and, consequently, directly administered on the State, and those under trustees or commissioners, who are generally nominated by the Government. The declared objects of these banks are to encourage thrift in the working classes, and to provide a safe investment for the funds of charitable institutions, friendly societies, and such like. The institutions, however, have become so popular that all classes of the community are represented amongst their depositors, and the banking crisis of 1893 had the effect of largely increasing their business.

In New South Wales there are both State and trustee institutions for the receipt of savings, the Post Office Savings Bank having been established in 1871, and the Savings Bank of New South Wales as far back as 1832. In both institutions sums of one shilling and any multiple of that amount may be deposited; but, with the exception of the funds of charitable institutions and friendly societies, deposits exceeding £200 do not bear interest on such excess. From October, 1894, to July, 1896, the Post Office Savings Bank allowed interest at the rate of 3 per cent., with an additional 1 per cent. on accounts open for the full calendar year, but this latter privilege has now been withdrawn. During 1899 the Savings Bank of New South Wales allowed 3 per cent. interest on accounts closed during the year, or remaining open at the end of the year. A measure providing for the amalgamation

o institutions has been presented to Parliament, but up to the
e Bill has not been passed.
toria both Commissioners' and Post Office Savings Banks,
d in 1842 and 1865 respectively, were in operation until the
tember, 1897, when they were amalgamated under the Savings
endment Act of 1896, the Commissioners assuming the control
w institution. Amounts of one shilling and any multiple
e received. The Act referred to further provided for advances
s and others, and this portion of the Act was brought into
without delay. During 1898-9 interest was allowed at the
per cent on sums not exceeding £100, and 2 per cent. from
250, the latter being the maximum amount carrying interest.
eensland, a Government Savings Bank, not administered in
n with the Post Office, is in operation, the system dating from
he interest allowed during 1895 was 3½ per cent. on all deposits
00; but from July, 1896, the rate was reduced to 3 per cent.
mber, 1895, authority was obtained for the issue of Savings
k at 3 per cent. to enable depositors of upwards of £200 to
terest on such excess, as it was found that large sums were
to the Government which could not earn interest under the
tution of the Bank.
th Australia there is, properly speaking, no Government
Bank; but an institution administered by trustees was estab-
1848. The rate of interest paid by the trustees has been the
many changes. Starting at 3 per cent., it fell as low as
in 1853; rose to 6 per cent. in 1858; and declined to 4 per
1873. Between the year last mentioned and 1892, interest
between 5½ and 4½ per cent; and in 1893 it was reduced to
, at which it remained during the years 1894 and 1895, while
nd 1897 it was still further reduced to 3½ per cent. and 3 per
ectively, the latter rate being allowed in 1898 and 1899, the
amount bearing interest being £250.
tern Australia, Post Office banks have been in operation since
ne shilling and upwards may be received, provided not more
0 is deposited in any one year, while the maximum amount of
ust not exceed £600. Interest is allowed at the rate of 3
provided the amount at credit is not less than £1, and not
£300.
mania, Post Office and trustee banks are working side by side.
one shilling and upwards may be deposited, the interest
eing 3 per cent. both in the Post Office banks and in the
stitutions. Interest is not allowed on amounts over £150
Zealand, Post Office and trustee institutions are also estab-
The former commenced operations in February, 1867; but
he other class of banks are of much older standing, the Auck-
gs Bank, for instance, having been established as far back as
Deposits of one shilling and upwards are received. Interest

£22 18s. 5d. The subjoined table shows the progress of accumulation in the Savings Banks of each of the colonies since 1871 :—

Year	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Commonwealth.	New Zealand.	Australasia.
				NUMBER OF DEPOSITORS.					
1871	24,379	45,819	6,769	14,270	1,062	8,500	100,799	14,275	115,074
1881	72,384	101,820	20,168	37,742	3,219	14,728	250,070	61,054	311,124
1891	158,426	300,731	46,259	78,795	3,564	26,016	614,741	126,886	741,627
1899-1900	266,826	375,070	80,748	119,435	33,918	39,923	909,920	213,172	1,123,092
				AMOUNT OF DEPOSITS.					
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1871	945,915	1,117,761	407,134	517,000	15,583	217,413	3,220,806	454,966	3,675,772
1881	2,698,703	2,569,438	944,2[illegible]1	1,288,450	23,344	369,278	7,893,404	1,549,515	9,442,[illegible]
1891	5,342,1[illegible]	715,387	1,660,7[illegible]3	1,2[illegible],419	46,181	554,417	15,536,592	3,40[illegible],[illegible]49	18,948,541
1899-1900	10,069,434	9,110,818	3,374,120	3,489,082	1,266,058	915,063	28,224,581	6,128,298	34,352,879
				AVERAGE AMOUNT PER DEPOSITOR.					
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1871	38 16 0	24 7 11	60 2 11	39 4 7	14 13 6	25 11 7	31 19 0	31 17 5	31 18 10
1881	37 5 8	25 4 [illegible]	46 16 5	34 2 9	7 5 0	25 1 6	31 11 4	25 7 7	30 7 0
1891	33 14 5	19 0 1	35 18 0	28 2 10	12 19 2	20 12 0	25 5 6	26 17 0	25 10 1
1899-1900	38 12 1	24 5 10	[illegible] 15 9	29 4 3	37 0 0	22 18 5	31 0 4	28 15 0	30 11 9

The following table shows the average amount per head of population, and the average number of depositors per 100 of population, in each of the colonies for the year 1899-1900 :—

State.	Average amount per head of Population.	Depositors per 100 of Population.
	£ s. d.	
New South Wales	7 8 5	19
Victoria	7 16 0	32
Queensland	6 19 11	17
South Australia	9 8 11	32
Western Australia	7 2 1	19
Tasmania	5 0 5	22
Commonwealth	7 11 1	24
New Zealand	8 2 0	28
Australasia	7 12 11	25

It will be observed that Victoria and South Australia had the largest number of depositors per 100 of population ; while the largest amount per head of population was reached in South Australia.

The following table shows the number of depositors in the savings banks of the principal countries of the world, the total amount standing

As already mentioned, large sums are also deposited with various building and investment societies, but the returns with reference to these are incomplete. The latest available figures show that the amounts so invested were:—In New South Wales, £1,132,305; in Victoria, £718,725; in Tasmania, £141,946, and in New Zealand, £209,489.

In the following table are given the deposits in banks, including savings banks, and, where available, building societies, etc., at four decennial periods, as well as for the year 1899–1900:—

State.		1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1899–1900.
		£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales		5,645,108	7,989,801	23,006,720	42,988,550	43,857,971
Victoria		7,575,406	12,476,677	25,771,348	50,185,551	40,469,918
Queensland		334,003	1,647,830	5,6[illegible],097	12,154,657	16,726,587
South Australia		875,820	2,038,719	6,251,904	9,902,[illegible]38	9,[illegible]7[illegible],842
Western Australia		*2,487	*15,583	*2[illegible],344	1,[illegible],906	5,6[illegible]1,271
Tasmania		1720,085	875,512	2,969,390	4,22[illegible],202	4,230,648
Commonwealth	Total	15,161,909	25,044,122	61,584,903	120,905,294	120,739,237
	Per head	£13	£15	£27	£38	£32
New Zealand		905,675	3,789,639	10,618,893	17,497,436	22,204,701
Australasia	Total	16,067,584	28,833,761	72,203,796	138,402,730	142,943,938
	Per head .	£13	£15	£26	£36	£32

* Savings Banks only. † Banks of Issue only.

From this table it will be seen that the increase of deposits in all classes of banks between 1861 and 1881 was exactly 100 per cent., allowing for the growth of population; while between 1871 and 1891 the deposits per head of population increased by 140 per cent. When compared with the figures for Great Britain, the amount of deposits per head of population in Australasia far exceeds that in the older country. In 1861, indeed, the sum per head in Great Britain was higher than in Australasia, amounting to £15 as against £13 in the colonies, and in 1874 the British average stood at £25 per head; but in years later, in 1884, it had sunk to £23, and in 1890 to £16, while in 1899 the rate per head had increased to about £24. In the colonies there was no falling-off at any period until 1893—the total deposits per head in 1888 far exceeding the highest level ever reached in Great Britain. In 1893, however, there was a decline of about [illegible] millions in the sum total of Australasian deposits, that is to say, the commercial depression which prevailed more or less throughout Australasia during that year caused the amount just mentioned to be withdrawn from the savings of the people and to be employed in meeting current expenses and in the maintenance of credit. During 1894 and 1895 there was a further falling-off in Victoria and Tasmania; but the other colonies showed larger deposits in 1895 than in 1893—the Queensland, Western Australia, and New Zealand deposits being even larger

[illegible] the savings in all the colonies except [illegible], where a decrease of about £22,000 took place, were [illegible] the net increase in the five years being over [illegible] which, compared with 1891, there was an [illegible] a half millions. It will thus be seen that the [illegible] recovered from the effects of the financial crisis of [illegible]

[illegible] the *Crédit Foncier* system has been established [illegible] the Savings Banks, and particulars relating to the [illegible] will be found in the chapter dealing with [illegible]

CURRENCY

[illegible] Australasia are those of the United Kingdom [illegible] the silver and bronze current being more properly [illegible] Gold coins are legal tender to any amount, silver for [illegible] not exceeding forty shillings, and bronze for one shilling. [illegible] and fineness of each coin are given below. The [illegible] of a sovereign is 122·5 Imperial grains, and of a [illegible] grains:—

[illegible]	Standard Weight	Standard Fineness.
	Imperial grains. Troy	
[illegible]	123·27447	Eleven-twelfths fine gold, one-twelfth alloy, or decimal fineness ·91666.
[illegible]	61·63723	
[illegible]	436·36363	Thirty-seven-fortieths fine silver, three-fortieths alloy, or decimal fineness ·925.
[illegible]	349·09090	
[illegible]	218·18181	
[illegible]	174·54545	
[illegible]	87·27272	
[illegible]	43·63636	
[illegible]	21·81818	
	Avoirdupois.	
[illegible]	145·83333	Mixed metal: Copper, 95 parts; tin, 4 parts and zinc, 1 part.
[illegible]	87·50000	
[illegible]	43·75000	

[illegible] that in Queensland there is a legal paper [illegible] of Treasury notes, which have now superseded [illegible]

[illegible] at the Sydney, Melbourne, and Perth Mints are of [illegible] bronze of English coinage are also issued. The

ns of silver and bronze issued during 1899 were, at the Sydney Mint, £61,800, and bronze, £2,830; and at the Melbourne Mint, £45,200),720 respectively. No silver or bronze coin was issued at the Mint during 1899. The Sydney Branch of the Royal Mint was on the 14th May, 1855, the Melbourne Branch on the 12th 1872, and a third branch was established at Perth on the 20th 1899. The amount of gold received for coinage up to the end of at the Sydney Mint, was 25,102,432 oz., valued at £93,256,493; ount received at the Melbourne Mint to the same date was ,389 oz., valued at £88,708,702; while at the Perth Branch the received was 201,314 oz., the value being £732,165.

following table shows the quantity of gold received into the three to the end of 1899, the metal received from outside sources listinguished from that locally produced :—

Where produced	Gold received for Coinage.		
	Sydney Mint.	Melbourne Mint.	Perth Mint.
	oz.	oz.	oz.
uth Wales	9,158,698	77,096	.....
	1,442,958	16,243,524	
and	11,290,965	10,574	
ustralia	81,482	529,553	
a Australia	9,700	2,331,316	201,314
ia	47,811	870,093	
aland	2,773,844	2,149,071	
ountries	36,177	190,581	
n, etc.	260,797	10,681	
Total	25,102,432	22,413,389	201,314

total value of gold raised in Australasia to the end of 1899 was 08,833, of which amount 43 per cent. passed through the Sydney, rne, and Perth Mints.

following table shows the amount of gold coin and bullion issued Mint to the end of 1899 —

Mint	Sovereigns.	Half-sovereigns.	Bullion.	Total Value of Coin and Bullion issued
	£	£	£	£
	87,090,500	2,737,500	3,248,895	93,076,895
rne	81,696,578	490,902	6,518,196	88,705,676
	690,992		3	690,995
otal	169,478,070	3,228,402	9,767,094	182,473,566

quantity of gold received into the Sydney Mint in 1899 was 3 oz., valued at £3,384,281, of which only 243,553 oz., or about

than in 1... South Wales. Queensland con... South Au... of the whole, while of the greater the... Z-aland, and 18,933 oz. from twelve an... ...ed into the Melbourne Mint for increase of ...which 872,742 oz., or 57 per cent., States hav... per cent. came from Western 1893. ...t the Perth Mint was opened on

In som... in connec... Sydney Mint in 1899 comprised operatio... ...f sovereigns, while the Melbourne Agricult... 97,221 half-sovereigns, and the ...ring the year.

The ... ...ed from Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, Gold is... ...1899 was as follows :—

	£
...	3,324,000
...	5,627,767
...	690,992
...	8,520,311

tokens ... Mint during 1899 issued gold bullion an amo... ...Melbourne Mint to the value of The st... ...to the value of £3. least o... ...ecty-Master of the Royal Mint for 1899 half-so... ...issued to and withdrawn from, and the ...ach of the Australasian colonies during ..., to have been as follows :—

	Gold	Silver Coin		Bronze Coin issued.
		Withdrawn	Net Issue	
	£	£	£	£
Silv...	...,700	172,593	592,107	30,850
	...,370	291,089	588,270	36,535
	...,985	4,750	241,245	3,100
	...,600	2,176	257,424	12,505
	...,700	3,927	63,773	1,870
	...,400	23,443	26,957	1,320
	2,367,745	497,969	1,769,776	95,180
Bro...	231,535	.....	231,535	14,385
	2,599,280	497,969	2,001,311	109,565

...nual increase in the circulation of silver of cu... ...se of £3,900, but no allowance is made in the th... ...to the colonies or taken away by passengers. ...ce regarding worn coin is not available for the gol... ...llowing figures, therefore, refer to Sydney only.

From 1873, when the Mint first received worn silver coin, until 1899, the amount of silver withdrawn from circulation was of the nominal value of £182,917. The actual weight after melting was 584,696 oz., and the corresponding weight of new coinage would be 665,151 oz. The loss while the coins were in circulation was therefore 80,455 oz., the average loss being 12·10 per cent. From 1876 to 1899 gold coin of the nominal value of £825,757 was received at the Sydney Mint for recoinage, and was found to have an actual value of £823,020. The loss amounted, therefore, to £2,737, or 0·33 per cent.

As has already been pointed out, standard silver consists of ·925 pure metal and ·075 alloy. A pound troy of standard silver is coined into sixty-six shillings, that is to say, 11·1 ounces of fine metal produce coin to the value of £3 6s. The average price of silver during 1899 was 2s. 4⅞d. per ounce, which for 11·1 ounces gives the sum of £1 5s. 4½d.; so that, after making due allowance for Mint expenses and loss entailed by abrasion of the coinage, it is evident that the British Government derives a fairly large profit from the silver coin issued to Australasia. This explains why the Governments of New South Wales and Victoria have approached the Imperial authorities for permission to coin silver to the value required for circulation in the colonies. With the present limited population of Australasia, however, it is doubtful whether the profits would do more than pay for the outlay necessary in connection with the minting.

LIFE ASSURANCE.

All the colonies except New South Wales have special laws regulating the business of life assurance. Except that of Queensland, the Life Assurance Acts require yearly statements to be made showing the total business of companies in operation, and also certain particulars regarding the transactions within their own colony. In New South Wales no special law has been passed, and companies doing this class of business are either registered under the Companies or Friendly Societies Act, or incorporated by special Act. In the other colonies the Acts regulating the business of life assurance deal chiefly with deposits to be made by companies commencing business, and with returns of business transacted. In no province are the full returns officially published: nevertheless, interesting and valuable reports are prepared and circulated by several of the companies, and all information reasonably to be desired is given in their pages. Other companies pursue a different course, and disclose very few particulars of their business. However, from such sources as are available, the information contained in the following pages has been compiled.

Of the sixteen companies doing business in the colonies, four have their head-offices in New South Wales, six in Victoria, one in South Australia, one in New Zealand, one in the United Kingdom, and three in the United States. The English company—the Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Company—has only lately commenced

26 per cent., were the produce of New South [illegible] concerning its [illegible] in force on the [illegible] remainder, 145,395 oz. came from New Ze[illegible] [illegible]sive of bonuses Tasmania The amount of gold received [illegible] [illegible]ums (£15,627), the the same year was 1,520,739 oz., of whi[illegible] [illegible] The Mutual As[illegible] were the produce of Victoria, while 33 p[illegible] [illegible] the National Mutual Australia, notwithstanding the fact that [illegible] [illegible]nsequently the figures the 30th June, 1899 [illegible] [illegible]mpany

The gold coins issued from the Sy[illegible] [illegible] investigations of the 3,259,000 sovereigns, and 130,000 half [illegible] Mint issued 5,579,157 sovereigns and [illegible] Perth Mint, 690,992 sovereigns duri[illegible]

The value of the gold coinage issu[illegible] and London Mints during the year [illegible]

	Date of last valuation.	Net or Present Liability	Surplus
		£	£
Sydney	[illegible] Dec. 1899	[illegible] 081	[illegible]
Melbourne	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Perth	[illegible] 1899	[illegible]	[illegible]
London	[illegible] 1899	[illegible]	[illegible]
	[illegible] 1897	[illegible]	[illegible]
	30 Sept., 1898	[illegible]	[illegible]
	31 Oct., 1899	[illegible]	[illegible]
	31 Dec., 1899	[illegible]	[illegible]
	30 Sept. [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	30 J[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	31 Dec., 1899	2,871,081	[illegible]
	31 [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	31 [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	31 [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Besides gold coin, the Sydney M[illegible] to the value of £48,446, th[illegible] £207,503, and the Perth Mint [illegible]

The annual report of the D[illegible] shows the value of silver c[illegible] value of bronze coin issued [illegible] the twenty eight years 187[illegible]

State

[illegible] and Guarantee branches.
[illegible] of Industrial branch.

New South Wales
Victoria
Queensland
South Australia
Western Australia
Tasmania

Commonwealth
New Zealand

Australasia

[illegible] the present value of the sums [illegible]dowment assurance, reversionary [illegible] force at date of valuation, less [illegible] premiums thereon.

[illegible] are mutual, and the remainder are [illegible] "mixed"—that is, proprietary [illegible] policy holders. Two of the institu[illegible] [illegible], while one company also under[illegible] [illegible] another does guarantee as well as [illegible] representatives in all the colonies [illegible] their operations to London, and one [illegible] New Zealand Government does not transact [illegible]

These figures [illegible] £71,500, and [illegible] figures for coin [illegible]

Complete int[illegible] [illegible] in force and the sums assured Melbourne M[illegible] [illegible] The item "Sums assured" means

of reversionary bonuses, at death, or on death before that age :—

	Policies in force, exclusive of Annuities.	Assurances. Sums Assured, exclusive of Bonuses.	Bonus Additions.	Total.	Annual Premium Income.
	No.	£	£	£	£
[illegible]	1 1,150	[illegible]	8,915,731	[illegible]	1 480,116
[illegible]	18 [illegible]	[illegible]	224 [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] (Ltd.)	[illegible]	1,[illegible],751	42 [illegible]	1,142 [illegible]	44,[illegible]
[illegible] (Ltd.)	22 [illegible]	[illegible]	86 [illegible]	[illegible]	124 [illegible]
[illegible] Company	1,325	464,[illegible]42	40,255	50[illegible],137	15,840
[illegible] of Austra-	46,890	16,632,539	844,976	11,477,515	348,922
[illegible] Life Assurance	21 18[illegible]	[illegible]	100,888	[illegible],751	[illegible]
[illegible] Society (Ltd.)	33,[illegible]	[illegible],726	273,20[illegible]	[illegible],920	328,[illegible]
[illegible] General Mu- [illegible] (Ltd.)	7,498	1 170,896	[illegible]	[illegible],465	40,1[illegible]
[illegible] Co.	481	182,432	36,280	218,718	5,4[illegible]
[illegible] and Guarantee	107	38,[illegible]		38,000	886
[illegible] Life Insurance	39,[illegible]	9,558,166	78[illegible]	10,341,[illegible]	280,684
[illegible] Society of the	8,[illegible]	4 098,452	‡	4 098,4[illegible]	*
[illegible] Company of New York	[illegible]	[illegible]	*	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Company	4 477	2 008,[illegible]82	*	2 [illegible]	[illegible]
Total	367,1[illegible]	[illegible],160	11,353,[illegible]	111,[illegible]	3 165,050

[illegible] June, 1897. † Year ended December, 1895. ‡ Australasian business only. [illegible] in preceding column. § Ordinary branch only. * Not available.

[illegible]lowing table shows the assurances in force at the close of each of three years :—

Institution.	Amount Assured, excluding Bonuses and Annuities. 1897	1898	1899
	£	£	£
[illegible] Mutual Provident Society	41 [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Life Association of Australasia	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Life Assurance Society (Ltd.)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Life Assurance Company (Ltd.)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Alliance Assurance Company	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Mutual Life Association of Australasia (Ltd.)	[illegible]	10,[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Widows' Fund Life Assurance Society (Ltd.)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Mutual Life Assurance Society (Ltd.)	10 425,370	10 [illegible]	10,[illegible]
[illegible] Temperance and General Mutual Life Assurance Society (Ltd.)	956,[illegible]	1 002,[illegible]	1 170,896
[illegible] Life and General Insurance Company	[illegible]	*	*
[illegible] Life Assurance and Guarantee Company	*	*	*
[illegible] Government Life Insurance Department	[illegible]	9 304 742	9,558,166
[illegible] Life Assurance Society of the United States	[illegible]	[illegible]	4 098,[illegible]
[illegible] Life Insurance Company of New York	1 41[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Life Insurance Company	1,831,700	[illegible]	2 008,[illegible]

[illegible] not available. † Australasian business only, but inclusive of bonus additions, except for the Mutual Life of New York, for which the information relating to bonuses is not available. ‡ Ordinary branch only.

operations in Australia, ... nted by the collections business which are avail... ...ing from investments of 31st March, 1896 (1,02... ...ount of policies matured (£566,647), and the a... ...ses of management chiefly company is not enumer... ...s and disbursements during surance Society of Vic... ...5s in Australasia, were as Life Association at the ... in the tables show the ...

The results of the ... various societies are ...

Institution	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Excess Receipts (Addition to Funds).
	£	£	£
	2,243,644	1,347,953	[illegible]
	283,525	131,760	[illegible]
	50,075	35,635	14,440
	124,841	41,377	[illegible]
	27,751	27,775	[illegible]
	499,753	315,822	[illegible]
	224,181	166,317	[illegible]
	409,744	286,134	[illegible]
	49,777	37,278	[illegible]
	14,002	10,329	[illegible]
	781	...	[illegible]
	421,569	285,422	[illegible]
	4,299,703	2,683,806	[illegible]

Australian Mutual Prov...
Mutual Life Association ...
City Mutual Life Assura...
*Citizens' Life Assurance ...
Australian Alliance Ass...
National Mutual Life ... tralasia (Ltd.)
‡Australian Widows' ... Society (Ltd.)
Colonial Mutual Life ...
Australasian Temperance ... Life Assurance ...
Victoria Life and Gen...
Adelaide Life Assur... pany
New Zealand Gov... Department
Equitable Life ... United States
New York Life In...
Mutual Life Insu...

...ance only. † Decrease.

...bursements of the twelve Australasian ... as follow :—

		Expenditure.	
	£		£
	[illegible]	Claims	[illegible]
	[illegible]	Surrenders	[illegible]
	[illegible]	Annuities	[illegible]
	[illegible]	Cash Bonuses and Dividends	[illegible]
	[illegible]	Expenses	[illegible]
		Amount written off to Depreciation, Reserves, etc.	[illegible]
	4,299,703	Total	2,683,806

The net ... assured in ... bonuses, e... the presen...

Of thes... what is t... companies ... tions als... takes fir... life busi... Three in... also to ... any bu...

The ... in eacl...

... combined amount of interest earned and rents ... to meet the demands under the head of claims. ... good from other sources, however, was small. ... affairs has obtained since 1894; but for many ... the amount earned more than met the ... of claims. The change just indicated may be ... firstly, the large number of discontinuances ... in the train of the depression, so that when the ... that which has lapsed, the net

ult is either only a slight increase or even a shrinkage in the volume assurances in force, and, secondly, the lower rate of interest lately lised on investments, which in 1899 only amounted to 4·56 per cent., against 5·54 per cent. in 1893.

Assets and Liabilities of Assurance Companies.

The societies publish annually a statement of assets and liabilities, with object of showing the distribution of the accumulated funds and the ount placed to commercial reserve. The return is, however, in no y connected with the valuation balance-sheet prepared at the date the actuarial investigation. The assets and liabilities for each insti ion, for the financial year of 1899, were as shown in the subjoined le :—

Institution.	Assets.			Liabilities.		
	Loans on Mortgages and Policies.	Government and Municipal Securities, Freehold Property, Cash on Deposit, etc., etc.	Total.	Assurance Endowment and Annuity Funds	Paid up Capital, Reserve Funds, etc., etc.	Total
	£	£	£	£		£
ralian Mutual Provident Society	12,483,740	4,055,524	16,539,264	16,074,741	464,523	16,539,264
ual Life Association of Australasia	840,286	532,045	1,372,331	1,359,393	12,938	1,372,331
Mutual Life Assurance Society (Ltd.)	122,920	71,106	194,032	191,306	2,806	194,032
ers' Life Assurance Company (Ltd.)	99,656	201,466	301,122	297,550	3,563	301,122
stralian Alliance Assurance Company	262,794	258,559	521,203	273,174	248,179	521,203
onal Mutual Life Association of Australasia (Ltd.)	2,026,079	1,054,049	3,080,128	2,951,502	128,626	4,080,128
alian Widows' Fund Life Assurance Society (Ltd.)	1,042,876	330,899	1,373,275	1,362,770	10,505	1,370,775
onal Mutual Life Assurance Society (Ltd.)	1,217,200	1,174,682	2,391,882	†2,385,200	6,610	2,391,882
stralian Temperance and General Mutual Life Assurance Society (Ltd.)	§171,134	§86,525	§257,659	§228,224	§29,435	§257,659
ria Life and General Insurance Company	193,362	170,657	364,019	234,593	129,426	364,019
lelaide Life Assurance and Guarantee Company	10,084	57,453	54,127	37,711	16,420	54,131
Zealand Government Life Insurance Department.....	1,892,939	1,178,642	3,071,581	2,997,681	73,900	3,071,581
Total	£20,876,690	9,161,117	29,526,723	28,399,030	1,126,703	29,525,733

* Ordinary branch only. † Inclusive of Fire, Marine, and Guarantee Branches which cannot be separated. ‡ Inclusive of the Investment Fluctuation Fund. § Inclusive of the Industrial Branch Exclusive of Guarantee Branch.

[illegible] represent rather more than two-thirds [illegible] years the investment of funds [illegible] to these securities but of late years [illegible] municipal loans, and other securities [illegible] The remaining items require [illegible] personal security, combined with [illegible] character are unusual in Australasia [illegible] invested aggregating only [illegible] companies are obliged by law to [illegible] as a guarantee of good faith [illegible] either under the head of Govern[illegible]

[illegible] Assurance Companies.

[illegible] to premium income and [illegible] to the age of the society and [illegible] The figures are given [illegible] [illegible] management [illegible] from that of [illegible] in any part of [illegible]

[illegible]	Expenses of Management		
	Amount	Proportion to—	
		Premium Income	Gross Receipts
	£	per cent.	per cent.
[illegible]	21[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

[illegible] expenses of guarantee branch.

Assurance in Various Countries.

[illegible] assured per policy for each colony, and for the [illegible] and the United States, is given in the [illegible] figures in some instances are probably somewhat

overstated, as all the companies do not show complete returns of the business in each colony, but the results may be taken as a fair estimate for each province. The Australasian business of the American institutions excluded from the previous returns, has been included for the purpose of establishing the Australian averages:

Country.	Average sum assured per Policy	Average Premium per £100 of Assurance.
	£	£ s. d.
Australasia	272	3 3 6
New South Wales	310	3 1 10
Victoria	253	3 3 11
Queensland	299	2 19 1
South Australia	243	3 5 8
Western Australia	324	2 19 2
Tasmania	268	3 4 0
New Zealand	258	3 0 10
United Kingdom	360	
United States	477	
Canada	338	

The average amount of assurance per head of population was, in Australasia, £22, in Canada, £15; in the United Kingdom, £15; and in the United States £17; while the average number of policies per thousand of population was, in Australasia, 82, in Canada, 46; in the United Kingdom, 43; and in the United States, 35.

The average policy is scarcely a fair measure of thrift. In these colonies mutual assurance is the rule, and members of the various societies have acquired large bonus additions. The average existing policy, including reversionary bonus, of the Australasian companies, on the 31st December, 1899, was £302, as compared with the £272 shown in the comparative table.

It would seem that the practice of assuring life is much more prevalent in Australasia than in any of the other countries instanced; and although the average sum assured by each policy is less, the number of policies is so much greater, as compared with the population, that the amount assured per inhabitant is considerably higher.

Friendly Societies.

The services which friendly societies directly render to the State in enabling the labouring classes to combine for the making of due provision to meet unforeseen demands in the case of sickness or death, are clearly recognised by the Governments of the various colonies, and all such societies which are registered according to law are granted certain privileges in consideration of the important part which they play in the

lfare of the community, in relieving th
ould otherwise have to be preferred ag
independence of their members and
embers accepting aid which would hav
The Acts regulating the operations o
s are all based on English legislatio
llowing privileges, which are granted t
colony of New South Wales, may be
ed in Australasia :

1. A registered Society can legally h
property in the names of trustee
one trustee to another by the m
can carry on all legal proceedin

2. The Society has a remedy on sur
person—

(*a*) Obtains possession
sentation or imposit

(*b*) Having possession
or misapplies it ;

(*c*) Wilfully applies a
poses other than t
rules and authori

3. If an officer of the Society di
or if an execution is issu
or property of the Socie
office, the trustees of th
money or property in pr

4. The documents of the So

5. The Society can admit
from them binding r
effect.

6. If it invests money o
charged by a mere

7. Its officers are legally
money or property
and may be compel

8. Disputes can be leg
rules.

9. Members of regist
legally insuring
children, for the
able interest in

Investment
£
1,466,602
943,672
570,672
277,110
312,228
330,004
3,700,389
950,337
4,650,726

r issued was £3 4s 8d
atly exceeded that o
alue of money orders
s £2 19s. 1d.

ers.

above, a system of po
es are issued for fixed
and value of notes i
ers were as follow :—

Amount.	Notes paid. Number.	A
£		
449,948	1,246,715	
480,225	1,209,234	
105,981	243,490	
	273,061	
121,601		
16,884	52,711	
*1,193,739	*3,085,211	
147,096	457,767	
1,331,425	*3,542,97	

*Exclusive of Weste

of small amounts, postal
While in 1899 the number
of postal notes, the value
urth of the value of money
being 8s., as compared with

28.

colonies are even more dissimilar
of importance; they have also
ny experiments and amendments,
difficult and unsatisfactory. For
for New South Wales, Queensland,
are given below, while the figures
s. In connection with the table it
es are exclusive of 66 liquidations in
at £83,395, and assets at £58,484;
gements under the Insolvency Act in
assets and liabilities are not stated:—

As shown in Bankrupts' Schedules.

Number of Liquidations.	Liabilities.	Assets.	Deficiency.
	£	£	£
612	321,913	175,345	146,568
504	513,240	261,308	251,932
355	104,060	24,465	80,495
32	13,069	10,085	2,984
157	228,790	171,261	57,529
57	13,791	5,326	8,465
1,807	1,195,763	647,790	547,973
407	285,854	187,900	97,954
2,214	1,481,617	835,690	645,927

can be placed upon the statements made by
te of their affairs, the assets being invariably
e figures given above for what they are worth,
e average amount of liabilities per bankrupt
£377, showing a deficiency of £292. In the
rage figures for the last ten years for which
e given, except where radical alterations in
or the absence of complete returns for the
e it necessary to take a shorter period; the

working class[illegible] statements, as far as some during 1899 : [illegible] worthless :—

	Number of Demonstrations.	Liabilities, as shown in Bankrupts' Schedules.
		£
[illegible]	1,145	1,091,654
[illegible]	863	3,181,690
New S[illegible]	339	147,394
Victor[illegible]	69	89,411
Queen[illegible]	68	145,469
South [illegible]	122	65,185
West[illegible]		
Tasm[illegible]	2,606	4,720,803
[illegible]	532	542,684
New [illegible]	3,138	5,263,487

The av[illegible] the busin[illegible] other col[illegible] in the U[illegible]

Besi[illegible] is in fo[illegible] varyin[illegible] paid d[illegible]

PUBLIC FINANCE.

THE functions of Government are much alike throughout Australasia, and it is only to be expected, therefore, that similar items of expenditure should be found in the budgets of the various colonies. The chief point of difference is the extent to which local requirements are provided for out of general revenue. In most of the provinces provision for local improvements is a matter of which the State has long since divested itself; but in New South Wales and Western Australia the central government still charges itself with the construction of works of a purely local character, especially in the rural districts; hence the appearance, in the statements of public expenditure of those colonies, of items of large amount which find no parallel in the other provinces. Also, when comparison is made with outside countries, other points of difference are found. In these colonies, as in other young communities, it has been necessary for the State to initiate works and services which in older countries have come within the province of the local authorities or have naturally been left to be undertaken by private enterprise. Even at the present day it is deemed advisable that the Government should retain the control of services, such as the railways, which in the United Kingdom and some other countries are not generally regarded as forming part of the functions of the State, and it is on account of the administration of these services that the budgets of the Australasian colonies reach such comparatively high figures.

The revenues of the Australasian colonies are subject to considerable fluctuations, due not so much to changes in the incidence of the revenue, as to variation in the amount of the imports, for it is upon taxation of imports that the revenues of the colonies most largely depend. The years of highest revenue ought, under normal conditions, to be coincident with the years of greatest prosperity, but some of the colonies have been able to efface the effect of unfavourable seasons by lavish borrowing, and the inflow of loans, as represented by taxable goods, has, at times, more than counterbalanced the shrinkage in the imports, due to failure in the wool or wheat crops, for which these imports are payment. This effect of the borrowing policy of the various states is, however, only to a slight extent visible in the following table; during the previous five

years (1886-1890) it was much more strongly marked, for in that short period the various States Governments contrived to borrow and spend £53,374,000, obtained in London. The unsteadiness of the railway revenue, due to variations in the seasons, is another cause of disturbance to Australian finance, and one which will not be obviated until the resources of the colonies are so developed that wool and wheat will no longer play the important part they do at present in the railway trade of the country. In 1895 large reductions were made in the New South Wales tariff; these account for a reduction in the revenue of the colony during that and subsequent years, while to other influence must be added the financial crisis of 1893, which had a numbing effect upon trade throughout the colonies comprised in the Commonwealth. It will be observed from the table that the serious changes manifest in the figures relating to the more important of the mainland colonies, are absent from those of Western Australia and New Zealand. The financial position of Western Australia is exceptional, being due to the opening up of the goldfields, and the influx of a large amount of capital, and, as the tariff was of a wide range, the importation necessarily involved a large customs revenue, and increased earnings on the part of the railway service. The configuration of the colony of New Zealand renders it to a very great extent immune from the droughts that so much effect the mainland of Australia, and the financial crisis of 1893 had only a comparatively slight influence on its trade; the progress of trade in the colony was, therefore, fairly regular during the years when the finances of the mainland colonies were most disturbed. The revenue for each colony during the past ten years is shown in the following table:—

Year	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia [illegible] Northern Territory.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Commonwealth.	New Zealand.	Australasia.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1890	9,805,601	*8,845,588	*3,350,[illegible]	*2,804,727	414,314	758,100	24,076,643	4,496,[illegible]	*9,472,[illegible]
1891	9,772,325	*7,729,572	*3,473,716	*2,811,267	497,670	883,199	25,167,749	4,428,[illegible]	[illegible]
1892	10,065,602	*6,959,[illegible]	*3,445,[illegible]	*2,[illegible]	*575,82[illegible]	787,764	24,359,885	4,669,[illegible]	[illegible]
1893	9,409,309	*6,716,814	*3,343,[illegible]	*[illegible]	*681,24[illegible]	706,972	23,598,081	4,69[illegible]	[illegible]
1894	9,849,430	*6,712,152	*3,413,172	*2,407,[illegible]	*1,125,941	696,79[illegible]	23,795,144	4,447,[illegible]	[illegible]
1895	*9,074,991	*6,458,[illegible]	*3,641,583	*2,[illegible]	*1,858,[illegible]	701,971	24,881,152	†4,536,[illegible]	[illegible]
1896	*9,107,208	*6,630,[illegible]	*3,613,15[illegible]	*2,6[illegible]	*2,842,751	797,976	[illegible],690,061	†4,798,[illegible]	[illegible]
1897	*9,304,2[illegible]	*6,[illegible]	*3,768,15[illegible]	*2,633,727	*2,[illegible]	84[illegible],010	26,204,138	†4,079,230	[illegible]
1898	*9,572,012	*7,[illegible]78,842	*4,174,0[illegible]	*2,[illegible],208	*2,478,811	908,323	27,244,082	†5,258,228	[illegible]
1899	*9,073,730	*7,450,676	*4,588,207	*2,853,320	2,875,396	943,970	28,685,314	†5,699,618	[illegible]

* Year ended 30th June next following. † Year ended 31st March next following.

...venue per inhabitant for each colony during the past ten years ...ws :—

...s ...th ...les	Victoria.	Queensland	South Australia, including Northern Territory	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Commonwealth.	New Zealand.	Australasia.
...d	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
... 11	*7 7 3	*5 10 6	*8 15 7	9 4 2	5 5 6	5 0 0	7 4 9	7 17 9
1	*6 13 7	*8 13 8	*8 12 8	9 19 1	5 18 7	7 18 2	7 0 7	7 13 7
... 10	*5 19 5	*8 5 6	*7 10 0	*9 16 4	5 3 1	7 7 7	7 5 5	7 7 3
... 6	*5 14 10	*8 0 0	*7 9 5	*10 9 5	4 12 0	7 0 2	7 1 11	7 0 5
... 10	*5 14 ...	*7 19 4	*7 1 11	†13 14 5	4 9 5	6 15 0	6 11 6	6 17 8
... 6	*5 10 1	*8 5 1	*7 5 0	*18 7 2	4 15 10	6 19 3	†6 11 6	6 17 11
... 8	*5 13 10	*8 0 8	*7 10 6	*20 12 2	4 17 8	7 4 3	†6 15 1	7 2 9
11	*5 18 7	*8 3 8	*7 5 11	*17 0 3	0 1	7 4 6	†7 0 1	7 3 0
... 1	*6 7 2	*8 17 ...	*7 9 7	*14 14 10	4 2	7 8 4	†7 2 2	7 7 4
7 0	*6 8 1	*9 10 3	*7 13 11	*16 16 5	5 5 0	7 14 1	†7 11 4	7 13 7

* Year ended 30th June next following. † Year ended 31st March next following.

following statements show that the expenditure of the six ...mmonwealth colonies has increased from £26,047,595 in 1890, to ...4,513 for the year ended 30th June, 1900, while the amount ...habitant has decreased from £8 7s. 2d to £7 10s. 11d. The ...nditure of the seven colonies has increased, during the same period ...30,417,161 to £33,234,641, while the amount per inhabitant has ...sed from £8 2s. 9d to £7 8s. 6d. The expenditure for each colony ...g the past ten years is set forth in the following table :—

... New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland	South Australia, including Northern Territory	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Commonwealth.	New Zealand	Australasia.
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
... 9 ... 95,000	*9 1 ...8,609	*3,684,655	*1,724,069	401,737	722,746	26,047,595	4,390,566	30,417,161
... 10 ... 14 813	*8,482,017	*1,625,282	*2,809,260	450,024	851,760	20 413,402	4,417,845	... 831,366
... 10,081 412	*7,080,777	*4,557,020	*2,784,145	*629,372	919,892	25,002,108	4,824,990	... 827,098
10,061 84	*7,210,240	*4,951,538	*2,749,081	*656,457	836,417	24 085 470	4,455 ... 6	29 420 506
9 ... ,88	*6,700,4 ...	*3,908,434	*2,061,934	*930,720	789,800	25 ... 88 522	4,286,712	28,00 5,434
... 07 877	*6,640,18 ...	*3,507,947	*2,646 ... 83	*1,82 ... 80	748,946	24,901 496	*4,170,481	29, ... 1 980
... 9,436,900	*6,508,952	*4,004,264	*2,770 110	*2,839,4 ... 3	750,244	25,978 ... 05	*4,509,281	... 488,284
... 9 210,940	*6,092,441	*4,747 ... 5	*2,750,960	*3,250,912	785,026	26 ... 7 ... 0	*4,602 379	31 ... 081
... 9 553,287	*7 027,41 ...	*4 024 170	*2,777 ... 14	*2 539,... 5	830,108	26 751 962	*4,865 ... 11	31, 610,4 ...
... 9,811 402	*7,318,045	*4,546,41 ...	*2 938,61 ...	*2,015,6 ... 5	871,454	28 ... 04 513	16,140 128	33,234,641

* Year ended 30th June next following. † Year ended 31st March next following.

[illegible] head of population, and the expendi- [illegible] per head, showing a total surplus on [illegible] of £590,801. The revenue of the [illegible] Australasia was £34,384,932, or £7 13s. [illegible] the expenditure £33,234,641, or £7 8s. [illegible] plus of £1,150,291. The colonies which [illegible] South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, Western [illegible] New Zealand; while South Australia showed [illegible] South Australia, it may be stated that the [illegible] of the colony proper were £2,780,858 and [illegible] of the Northern Territory, £72,471 and [illegible] the year's transactions was, therefore, wholly [illegible] of the great area north of the 26th degree of

SOURCES OF REVENUE.

[illegible] the colonies is mainly derived from taxation and [illegible] during the year 1899–1900 the customs and excise [illegible] forming the Commonwealth yielded £7,629,027, [illegible] taxation, £2,419,484; while the railways and tram [illegible] revenue of £10,632,908, and posts and telegraphs [illegible] altogether a sum of £22,921,850 derived from [illegible] 79·9 per cent of the total receipts. The correspond[illegible] the whole of Australasia were:—Customs and excise [illegible] 886; other forms of taxation, £3,122,751; railways and [illegible] 254,521; posts and telegraphs, £2,728,677, giving a [illegible] 22,835, or 81·2 per cent of a total revenue of £34,384,932. [illegible] of the revenue of each colony is appended.

[illegible]	Taxation: Import and Excise Duties	Taxation: Other	Railways and Tramways	Posts and Telegraphs	Public Lands	All Other Sources	Total Revenue
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
[illegible] Wales	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Australia	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Australia	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Commonwealth	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Zealand	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Australasia	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

[illegible] low will be found a statement of the revenue in 1899–1900 on the [illegible] of population. The average for the colonies included in the [illegible] Commonwealth was £7 14s. 1d. and for the whole of Australasia was [illegible] 13s. 7d. per head, the amount ranging from £5 5s. in Tasmania [illegible] 16 16s. 3d. in Western Australia. The high revenue in the latter [illegible] is attributable to the influx of foreign capital consequent on [illegible]

The expenditure per inhabitant for each colony fo
is as follows:—

Year	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia, including Northern Territory.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Com we
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£
1890	8 10 4	*8 1 1	*9 7 6	*8 10 7	8 18 7	5 9 7	
1891	8 18 10	*7 8 8	*9 1 2	*8 12 2	8 15 0	5 14 4	
1892	8 11 1	*6 17 2	*8 13 11	*8 5 4	*10 14 7	6 0 4	
1893	8 6 10	*8 4 11	*8 0 4	*7 18 6	*10 1 9	5 8 10	
1894	7 11 7	*6 15 3	*7 14 5	*7 11 3	*11 8 3	5 1 4	
1895	*7 12 5	*6 11 5	*8 1 9	*7 8 1	*18 0 4	4 14 5	
1896	*7 6 8	*6 10 10	*8 0 1	*7 15 0	*20 11 8	4 11 10	
1897	*7 0 8	*6 17 1	*8 2 9	*7 12 5	*20 2 3	4 13 8	
1898	*7 3 3	*6 1 2	*8 10 8	*7 12 2	*15 3 1	4 15 2	
1899	*7 4 8	*6 7 10	*9 8 3	*7 18 5	*15 5 10	4 17 6	

* Year ended 30th June next following. † Year ended

In the colonies of New South Wales, Victo
Australia, and Western Australia, the financial
June; in Tasmania, on the 31st December;
the 31st March. Below will be found a st
revenue and expenditure of each colony for th
with the amounts per head of population.
from the revenue and expenditure of New
Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand,
are excluded; while for Queensland
nothing in the published statements
gross or net:—

State.	Year ended—
New South Wales	30
Victoria	"
Queensland	
South Australia*	
Western Australia	
Tasmania	
Commonwea	
New Zealand	
Aust	

clus

increase the direct taxation of the people, on account of the diminished land sales and the shrinkage in other revenue. The yield from indirect taxation shows a slight increase in Victoria, Queensland, and Tasmania, and a large increase in Western Australia, the other states show decreases. Excepting in the case of New South Wales, which had in 1900 a much more restricted tariff list than in 1881, the more recent tariffs of the Australian colonies are framed on a higher scale than the earlier ones. The yield obtained, however, has not been commensurate with the increase in the duties. This, of course, is the ordinary result of high duties, even where they have had no effect on local production :

State.	Total Taxation, 1881			Per Inhabitant.		
	Direct.	Indirect.	Total.	Direct.	Indirect.	Total.
	£	£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
New South Wales	192,503	1,578,345	1,770,848	0 5 0	2 1 3	2 6 3
Victoria ..	347,[illegible]	[illegible]	1,98[illegible]	0 8 1	1 18 0	2 6 1
Queensland	49,[illegible]11	[illegible]	[illegible]	0 4 7	2 16 [illegible]	3 [illegible] 2
South Australia	14,[illegible]22	[illegible]	[illegible]	0 1 1	2 2 7	2 [illegible] 8
Western Australia	1,306	114,[illegible]	11[illegible]	0 0 [illegible]	3 1[illegible] 10	3 18 8
Tasmania	66,748	28[illegible]	350,146	0 11 [illegible]	2 [illegible] 6	2 19 11
Commonwealth	672,072	4,790,067	5,4[illegible],139	0 5 11	2 1 11	[illegible] 7 1[illegible]
New Zealand .	40[illegible],802	[illegible]	1,8[illegible]	0 10 6	3 0 1	3 16 7
Australasia . .	1,077,874	6,270,574	7,348,448	0 7 10	2 5 8	2 13 6

In respect of the proportion of revenue raised at the present time by taxation, the colonies differ considerably. Thus, no less than 58·0 per cent. of the revenue of Tasmania in 1899–1900 was derived from that source, while in New Zealand the proportion was 50·7 per cent.; in Queensland, 43·2 per cent., in Victoria, 39·4 per cent., in Western Australia, 36·7 per cent.; in South Australia, 31·6 per cent.; and in New South Wales, only 26·3 per cent. The comparison, however, is only interesting as showing the large territorial revenue that New South Wales is fortunate enough to possess.

In all the colonies probate duties are levied, and in all the colonies except Western Australia and Queensland, land and income taxes. In Queensland the only incomes taxed are the dividends of joint-stock companies, and in Western Australia a dividend and companies tax has also been introduced since the close of the financial year 1898–9. In the edition of this work for 1895–6 the changes in the probate and succession duties, and in the land and income taxes, were traced; the description given below deals only with the duties as they stand at the present time.

Probate and Succession Duties.

New South Wales.—In this colony a duty of 1 per cent. was payable to the end of the year 1899 on the value of the real and personal estate of a testator or intestate, and on settlements of property taking effect

the wife or husband or lineal issue of the predecessor, one-half of these rates only is charged: and when the successor is a stranger in blood to the predecessor double rates are charged. The following small probate duties are also payable on the net value of the property:

Value	Probates.	Letters of Administration
Under £50	Nil	Nil
£50 and not exceeding £100	10s.	£1.
Over £100 and not exceeding £200	£1.	£2.
„ £200 „ „ £500	£2.	£4
„ £500	£5.	£10.

Succession duty is chargeable on all property held within the colony, although the testator or intestate may have been domiciled elsewhere but power is taken to compound the duty and to accept one sum in respect of all successions, present and future, where the deceased has been domiciled in the United Kingdom or a British possession, and it has been found difficult to assess the value of the succession. Also, where the British Government or the Government of a British possession exempts from duty property held in Queensland by a person domiciled in the United Kingdom or the British possession referred to, no duty is chargeable by the Queensland Government on property held in the United Kingdom or such British possession by a person domiciled in the colony.

South Australia.—Succession duties are imposed on real and personal property derived from the estate of a deceased person; on settlements of property to take effect after the death of the settlor; and on property made over by deed of gift during the lifetime of the donor, and not made before and in consideration of marriage, or in favour of a *bona fide* purchaser or encumbrancer for valuable consideration. The duty is levied on the net present value, and is fixed at 10 per cent. when the legatee or beneficiary is a stranger in blood to the person from whom the property is received. When the person taking the property is the widow, widower, descendant, or ancestor, it is subject to a duty of 1½ per cent. if the value is £500 and under £700; if £700 and under £1,000, 2 per cent.; £1,000 and under £2,000, 3 per cent.; £2,000 and under £3,000, 3½ per cent.; £3,000 and under £5,000, 4 per cent.; £5,000 and under £7,000, 4½ per cent.; £7,000 and under £10,000, 5 per cent.; £10,000 and under £15,000, 5½ per cent.; £15,000 and under £20,000, 6 per cent.; £20,000 and under £30,000 6½ per cent.; £30,000 and under £40,000, 7 per cent.; £40,000 and under £60,000, 7½ per cent.; £60,000 and under £80,000, 8 per cent.; £80,000 and under £100,000, 8½ per cent.; £100,000 and under £150,000, 9 per cent.; £150,000 and under £200,000, 9½ per cent.; and £200,000 and upwards, 10 per cent., one-half of these rates only to be charged when the person taking the property is the child (under 21 years of age) or the widow of the deceased, and the net present value of the whole estate is under £2,000. When the property is taken by a brother or

after death, provided the value of the property
2 per cent was payable on estates of the val
£12,500; 3 per cent. upon £12,500 and und
upon £25,000 and under £50,000; and 5 pe
upwards. Estates not exceeding £200 in gr
duty. On the 22nd December, 1899, an ac
to, under which the following duties on the
are now payable

Exceeding	Not exceeding	Rate	Exceeding
£	£	per cent.	£
	1,000	Nil.	34
1,000	5,000	2	5
5,000	6,000	3	3
6,000	7,000	3½	1
7,000	8,000	3¾	1
8,000	9,000	4	
9,000	10,000	3	
10,000	12,000	4	
12,000	14,000	4½	
14,000	16,000	4¾	
16,000	18,000	4	
18,000	20,000	4½	
20,000	22,000	5	
22,000	24,000	5½	
24,000	26,000	5¾	
26,000	28,000	5	
28,000	30,000	5½	
30,000	32,000	6	
32,000	34,000	6½	

Only one half of these rates
to the widow, children, and gra
provided the total value of th
all debts have been paid

Victoria.—The succession
to those levied in New South
exception that on estates exce
an exemption of £1,000 is al
half rate payable by widows
entered in them, are the sa

Queensland.—A successio
land on property acquired
owner when the value of th
is chargeable upon
per cent. upon £2,500
and under £10,000; 8 p
and 10 per cent upon

any other
settlor, or
value is under
under £400,
£700 and under
cent.; £2,000
,000, 6 per cent.
under £15,000,
and £20,000 and

e estates of deceased
effect after the death
settlements, on all post-
rement entered into
fe, or her issue, or the
ued to the settlor after
l settlements made in
faith and for valuable
net value of the estate
sum subject to taxation
when the net value of the
value is exceeded no
follow:

	per cent.
	2 "
	3 "
	4 "
	5 "
	6 "
	7 "
	8 "
	9 "
	10 "

shares comprise the parent, issue,
of the deceased.
imposed on probates of wills and
ved on the net value of the
estate. When the amount is
when it is £100 and not more than
when it is £500 and upwards the
exempt from taxation.
ties are imposed in New Zealand on
nancial property left by a testator or
taking effect after the death of
ver by deed of gift taking effect
not being property granted before

...n favour of a *bonâ fide* purchaser
...e consideration:—

. .	Nil.
....	Nil.
.	2½ per cent.
000 . .	3½ ,,
. .	7 ,,
. .	10 ,,

... the case of strangers in blood, except
...ted that no duty shall be payable on
...to the possession of the widow of the
...f the deceased, and that only half-rates
...equired by the children, step-children, and
... or intestate. It is further provided that
...which a life estate or interest is acquired by
...her husband, or by the widower on the death
...ty shall be made in ordinary course if the
...l value which would give an annual return of
...ested at 6 per cent, and when the property is
...a widower shall obtain a refund not exceeding

...NCOME TAXATION IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

...s land tax is levied on the unimproved value;
...d in the £. An exemption of £240 is allowed,
...l value is in excess of this sum a deduction equal
... made, but when a person or company holds several
... one sum of £240 may be deducted from the aggre-
...alue. Also, when a block of land is mortgaged, the
...d to deduct from the amount of his tax a sum which
...come tax chargeable to the mortgagee on the interest
... mortgage of the whole property, including unprove-
...xemptions from taxation comprise Crown lands not
... of purchase, or held under special or conditional lease,
...l selections, other lands vested in Her Majesty or her
...s, lands vested in the Railway Commissioners, lands
... vested in local authorities, public roads, reserves, parks,
...nd commons, lands occupied as public pounds, or used
... for or in connection with public hospitals, benevolent insti-
...l other public charities, churches and chapels, the University
...nated colleges, the Sydney Grammar School, and mechanics'
... and schools of arts, and lands dedicated to and vested in
... and used for zoological, agricultural, pastoral, or horticultural
...urposes, or for other public or scientific purposes. Should the
...ain unpaid for a period of two years after it becomes due the
...issioners may, after giving another year's notice, let the land for
...od not exceeding three years, or, with the permission of a Judge

of the Supreme Court, sell so much of it as may be necessary for the payment of the tax, with fines, costs, and expenses added.

A tax is also imposed upon so much of every income as may be in excess of £200, except in so far as it is derived from the ownership or use or cultivation of land upon which land tax is payable; the present rate being 6d. in the £. The exemptions include the revenues of local authorities, the income of life assurance societies and of other societies and companies not carrying on business for purposes of profit or gain, and not being income derived from mortgages; the dividends and profits of the Savings Bank of New South Wales and the Post Office Savings Bank, the funds and income of registered friendly societies and trade unions, the income and revenues of all ecclesiastical, charitable, and educational institutions of a public character, and income accruing to foreign investors from Government stock. The regulations provide that in the case of every company its income shall be taken as the income of the company in New South Wales and from investments within the colony. Public companies are not allowed the exemption of £200.

Land and Income Taxation in Victoria.

The Land Tax Act in force in Victoria was passed with the object of breaking up large holdings. For this purpose it was declared that all "landed estates" should be subject to taxation, that a "landed estate" should consist of one or more blocks of land not more than 5 miles apart which possessed an aggregate area of upwards of 640 acres and a capital value of more than £2,500, that the value in excess of £2,500 should be taxed at the rate of 1½ per cent. per annum, but that only one exemption should be allowed to a person or company owning more than one "landed estate", and that the assessment of the capital value of the "landed estate" should be based upon the average number of sheep which it was estimated to be able to maintain, £4 per acre being fixed as the value of land which could carry 2 sheep or more to that area, £3 per acre if it could carry only 1½ sheep, £2 per acre if it could carry only 1 sheep, and £1 if it could not maintain an average of a single sheep to the acre.

The rate of income tax payable in the colony varies according to the source whence the income is derived and the taxable amount of such income. On incomes derived from personal exertion 4d. in the £ is payable up to £1,200; on every £ in excess of this sum up to £2,200, 6d.; and on every £ in excess of £2,200, 8d., double these rates being payable on incomes the produce of property within the colony. All incomes of and under £200 escape taxation, and this sum is exempted in all cases in which the income is higher. Land and buildings used by the owner for residential purposes are regarded as returning an income of 4 per cent. on the capital value, and the income of companies whose head office is not within the colony is taken to be such a proportion of the total dividends of the company as the receipts, assets and liabilities (as may be prescribed) in Victoria bear to the total

...abilities. It is provided that shipowners whose ...ss is outside the colony shall pay £5 for every ...arriage of Victorian passengers, goods, and mails. ...roperty, where the principal is not a resident of ...ount of his income derived from such sale or ...ssessed at 5 per cent. of the total amount for ...sold or otherwise disposed of, unless it should ...faction of the Commissioner that the amount ... 5 per cent., when a corresponding reduction ...exemptions include the income of the State, ...gs banks, University of Melbourne and affiliated ...s College, schools of mines, technical schools, ...tered friendly societies, building societies, and ...ties and public bodies not carrying on business ...shareholders or members; of mutual life assur... head offices are in Australia; of insurance com..., taking out an annual license under the Stamps ...ompanies, also such dividends derived from mining ...be in excess of calls paid up during the year, ...y foreign investors from the stock of Government

Dividend Tax in Queensland.

...tax in Queensland, and income tax is only collected ...ared by public companies. The rate is 1s. per £ ...ed by all companies having their head office or chief ...o Queensland, provided that when the operations of ...xtend beyond the colony duty shall only be payable ...dividends as is proportionate to the average capital ...the colony. In the case of companies which have not ...in Queensland, and which are not companies carrying ...ness only, the duty is payable on so much of the total ...proportionate to the average amount of capital employed ...ring the year as compared with the total average capital ...and in the case of insurance companies duty is payable ...for every £100 or part of £100 of gross premiums ...xemption is allowed in the case of mining companies, ...£ being payable only on dividends over and above ...repayment of the expenditure actually incurred by ...re the declaration of the first dividend in respect of ...al employed in developing the mine, and in repayment ...of the cost of machinery erected for the raising of ores ...rials from the mine.

ND AND INCOME TAXATION IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

...Australia the land tax is calculated on the unimproved ...oring ½d. in the £, with an additional tax of ½d.

on every £ in excess of £5,000. The amount of tax payable by an absentee, who is defined as a person who has been absent from or resident out of the colony for two years, is increased by 20 per cent. The exemptions to the land tax comprise Crown lands which are not subject to any agreement for sale or right of purchase, park lands, public roads, public cemeteries, and other public reserves, and land used solely for religious or charitable purposes, or used by any institute under the provisions of the Institute Act of 1874. It is provided that an assessment shall be made every three years, and that the distribution of the tax shall be made according to the proprietary interest held in the land. It is further provided that if the payment of the tax has been in arrear for a period of two years the Commissioner may, after giving another year's notice of his intention, let the land from year to year, and after deducting from the rents the amount of tax, with costs and expenses, hold the balance for the benefit of the owner; or he may even go so far as to petition the Supreme Court for permission to sell so much of the land as may be necessary for the payment of the tax and costs and expenses.

The income tax varies according to the source whence the income is derived. On incomes derived from personal exertion the rate imposed is 4½d. in the £ up to and including £800, and 6d. for every £ in excess of that sum, with double these rates on incomes the produce of property. The sum exempted from taxation is £150, if the income does not exceed £300 per annum, but no exemption is allowed in the case of an income in excess of the sum named. The exemptions from taxation comprise the incomes of municipal corporations and district councils; of companies, public bodies, and societies not carrying on business for purposes of gain to be divided amongst shareholders or members, and of friendly societies. Land and buildings occupied by the owner for residential purposes are taken as returning an income of 5 per cent. on the capital value, and the income of a company is declared to be the produce of property for taxation purposes.

Dividend and Companies Tax in Western Australia.

Of all the colonies, Western Australia was the last to extend the system of direct taxation to incomes, but, like Queensland, the form of taxation was restricted to the income and dividends of companies. The Act authorising this taxation is known as the Companies Duty Act of 1899. The main object aimed at by Parliament in sanctioning this partial taxation of incomes was to secure to the colony some portion of the golden harvest of the mining fields, and although the Act has not been sufficiently long in operation to enable a full estimate of its effects to be obtained, it is quite plain that the fears of its opponents—that it would scare capital away from the colony—have not been, and are not likely to be, realised. It was originally proposed that the charges should be 5 per cent. on dividends, whether called by the name of dividends, bonuses, profits, interest, or any other term, but as

per cent. only. Ultimately, life insurance from the operation of the Act, and fire and were required to pay on their net premiums. panies and banks, were to pay on their companies on their dividends. In view of egislation of an experimental character, it t its existence to a period of about three efore made that the measure should only st December, 1902.

ncome Taxation in Tasmania.

Tasmania is at the rate of ½d. in the £ on land, with a deduction of ⅝d. in the £ on exemptions comprise land the property of a her local authority, or of a registered friendly school under the Education Department, am., of the Tasmanian Museum, of a hos- or other building used solely for charitable or vested in trust for public purposes, public ge not owned by joint-stock or public com- s, gardens, and recreation grounds. Crown so exempted from taxation, but if they have the occupier is required to pay tax, provided been paid or has become due. The owner of rectly for the amount of the tax, unless he or cannot be found, in which case the occupier is allowed to deduct the sum from the amount ssioner has power to let the land if the tax ths after it has become due, or, with the approval reme Court, to sell it if the tax has remained and it is provided that the balance of the pro- t of the tax, with costs and expenses, has been nded over to the owner of the rented property or t the property which has been sold.

x Act in force in the colony provides that 8d. able on incomes derived from personal exertion, om the produce of property, and 1s. per £ on the mpanies. The chief exemptions are the revenues of ations and other local authorities, incomes of com- or public bodies or trusts not carrying on business distribution of profits amongst their shareholders or funds and incomes of registered friendly societies and income accruing to foreign investors in Tasmanian tock; rents from land subject to land tax; incomes of insurance companies which have not their head offices in and which are specially taxed); and incomes of persons who

have not been resident in the colony for at least twelve months. It is provided that persons deriving income from sources outside the colony shall not be taxed in respect of the same if income tax has been paid upon the money in the colony or country whence it has been derived. In the case of incomes derived from personal exertion, an exemption is made of all incomes not exceeding £150; on incomes exceeding £150 and not exceeding £400, the sum of £120 escapes taxation: but all incomes exceeding £400 in amount are taxed to the full extent. Where the income is the produce of property, incomes not exceeding £100 in amount are exempt from taxation, but only £80 is exempted when the income exceeds £100 and does not exceed £400, and no exemption is allowed when the income is in excess of £400 per annum. It is also provided that, when the income is derived from both sources, no tax shall be payable if the total amount does not exceed £150 and the part derived from property is less than £100, but when the income from the combined sources exceeds £150 in amount and is less than £400, a certain deduction is made, provided the part derived from property is less than £100, or the part derived from personal exertion is less than £150; the deduction must, however, be made in such a manner that the amount of tax payable shall not be less than if the whole of such income had been derived either from property or from personal exertion.

Land and Income Taxation in New Zealand.

In New Zealand the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act imposes a tax upon incomes and an ordinary tax upon land and mortgages, the amount of which it is provided shall be fixed annually by a Rating Act; and also an additional graduated tax upon the unimproved value of land, the rates of which are fixed by the Assessment Act. The rate of the ordinary tax upon land and mortgages at present stands at 1d in the £ of capital value. It is provided that the owner of any land shall pay the tax on the actual value of his land, and also on the value of any mortgages which he may hold over other land, less the value of improvements, and of any mortgage which may be owing on his land. If, then, the net value does not exceed £1,500, an exemption of £500 is allowed, but for every £2 by which the net value exceeds the sum of £1,500 the exemption of £500 is reduced by £1, so that when the value reaches the sum of £2,500 there is no exemption at all. In the case of land owned and mortgages held by persons incapacitated by age, ill health, or other cause from earning further income from business or employment, the exemption of £500 is raised to £2,000 if the annual income produced by the land and mortgages does not amount to a larger sum than £200. Mortgages are treated as land, and the holder is allowed the exemption of £500 from the ordinary tax.

The graduated land tax is imposed on all land possessing an unimproved value of £5,000 and upwards, an important difference between the two taxes being that the mortgagee escapes the graduated

tax, and no deduction is allowed to the mortgagor in consideration of any sum which may be advanced on the property. It is provided that on an unimproved value of £5,000 and under £10,000, ½d. per £ shall be payable; on £10,000 and under £15,000, ¾d.; £15,000 and under £20,000, ⅞d.; £20,000 and under £25,000, 1d.; £25,000 and under £30,000, 1⅛d.; £30,000 and under £40,000, 1¼d.; £40,000 and under £50,000, 1⅜d.; £50,000 and under £70,000, 1½d.; £70,000 and under £90,000, 1⅝d.; £90,000 and under £110,000, 1¾d.; £110,000 and under £130,000, 1⅞d.; £130,000 and under £150,000, 2d.; £150,000 and under £170,000, 2⅛d.; £170,000 and under £190,000, 2¼d.; £190,000 and under £210,000, 2⅜d.; and £210,000 and over, 2½d. per £.; and it is further provided that an absentee, who is declared to be a person who has been absent from or resident out of the colony for a period of three years or more, shall pay a graduated tax of 20 per cent. additional to the schedule rates.

It is provided that returns of land and mortgages shall be made biennially. Purchasers of Crown lands on credit are liable to taxation, and the owner of a leasehold interest in land is liable to taxation in respect of the value of such interest. The exemptions comprise Crown lands; lands vested in the Railway Commissioners and in local governing bodies; land used solely in connection with a place of worship or a place of residence for the clergy of any religious body, or in connection with public schools established under the Education Act of 1877, or with any other school not carried on exclusively for gain or profit, but the maximum area of land exempted for the purposes of any school carried on for profit is 15 acres; the site of a university or college, or school incorporated by any Act or Ordinance, or the site of a public library, athenæum, mechanics' institute, or school of mines; a public cemetery or burial-ground; the ground or place of meeting of any agricultural society, provided it be the property of such society; the place of meeting of a friendly society or Masonic lodge, or of a registered building society; land used for the purposes of public charitable institutions constituted under the Hospitals and Charitable Institutions Act, and of other charitable institutions not carried on for gain or profit; public gardens, domains, or recreation or other public reserves not occupied by a tenant, and all public roads and streets; land owned and occupied by Maoris, and not leased to or occupied by any person other than the Maori owner, and any public railway, including the land occupied and used as permanent way and for yards, stations, and sheds, and all buildings used for the purposes of railway traffic only. Further exemptions comprise all land owned and mortgages held by any friendly society within the meaning of the Act; all land owned and mortgages held by any savings bank constituted under the Savings Bank Act of 1858; all land owned and mortgages held by the Commissioners of Sinking Funds under the Public Debts Sinking Funds Act of 1868, or by the trustees of any local authority whose revenues are exempt from taxation; and all mortgages held by or on behalf of any charitable institution.

Still another exemption is provided for, namely, all land owned and mortgages held by or on behalf of any religious body, the proceeds of which land and mortgages are devoted to the support of aged or infirm ministers, or of widows or orphan children of ministers. It is also declared that native land occupied by any other person than the Maori owner shall be subject to one half of the ordinary land tax in respect of the Maori landowner's interest therein, while being exempt from the graduated tax, and that all mortgages held by or in trust for Maoris shall be liable to the payment of ordinary land tax. Mortgages held by banking companies are reached by the income tax, and land owned and mortgages held by any registered building society are exempted from taxation, the profits derived by members being subject to income tax. In the event of land being undervalued, the Commissioner may give notice to the owner, within twelve months of the signing of the assessment roll, that he must increase the value of the land to the sum placed upon it by the taxation authorities. If the owner is not willing to increase the value to the sum notified by the Commissioner he may appeal to the Resident Magistrate to assess the value, but should he neither adopt this course nor consent to the Commissioner's valuation within thirty days, the Commissioner may recommend that the Government shall purchase the land at the returned value plus 10 per cent. On the other hand, if the owner is not satisfied with the value at which the land has been assessed, whether by the Board of Review or not, he may call upon the Commissioner to reduce the valuation to a certain sum or to purchase the land at this price.

The income tax is payable upon income derived from employment and from business, including investments other than those in mortgages of land, upon which ordinary land tax is levied. An exemption of £300 is allowed to every person domiciled in the colony, this concession being withheld from absentees; but no exemption is allowed to a public company. The rate of tax is 6d. in the £ on the first taxable £1,000 and 1s. on every additional £, except in the case of public companies, which pay 1s. per £ on the whole sum. The income of public companies is declared to be the amount of dividends earned, sums carried to reserve fund, and any other profits made or income derived by such companies. To this provision exception is made in the case of banking companies, insurance companies, shipping companies, and loan, building, and investment companies. It is provided that every banking company shall be assessed for income tax at the rate of 7s. 6d. per £100 of the average of the total liabilities and assets for the four quarters of the preceding year. The shareholders of loan, building, and investment companies are personally taxed upon the amount of income derived from such societies. The regulations declare that a person or company engaged in business as the owner or charterer of shipping shall be assessed upon the income derived from such business carried on in New Zealand and with places beyond the colony; and that when the head office of a person or company engaged in such business is

tside the colony the agent shall be liable to the payment of income x of 5 per cent. of the receipts from the carriage of passengers, ods, and live stock shipped at New Zealand ports. It is also provided these regulations that the income of every insurance company shall taken as the income derived from business carried on in the lony, and from investments within the colony other than those in nd and in mortgages of land. The exemptions to the income tax mprise the revenues of any county council, borough council, town ard, road board, harbour board, public university, public school, ucation board, school commissioners, licensing committee, and every her local authority receiving revenue of any kind for the purposes or in relation to local self-government; the income of friendly cieties and building societies, and of all public bodies and societies not rrying on business for purposes of gain to be divided amongst the areholders or members; and income derived by the owner or occupier om any land on which land tax is payable, and from mortgages of such nd. The income of any savings bank constituted under the Savings ank Act of 1858, and the income of any public charitable institution, e also exempted. Also, when a person occupies for purposes of siness or employment land on which he pays land tax, he is allowed to duct from his income a sum equal to 5 per cent. on the amount on hich he is liable to pay land tax. It is imperative that a person who oes not reside permanently in the colony, and who offers or exposes oods for sale or disposition by sample or otherwise, shall take out an nnual license, the fee for which is fixed by regulation at £50.

Revenue from Direct Taxation.

The following table shows the amount of revenue received from the arious sources of direct taxation during the year 1899–1900:

State.	* Stamp Duties.		Land Tax	Income Tax	Dividend Tax.	Total.
	Probate.	Other.				
	£	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	99,374	209,742	286,227	166,051	.....	761,394
Victoria	126,478	206,156	108,222	215,071	.	655,927
Queensland	245,426		. .	.	†73,604	319,030
South Australia	33,891	31,060	78,406	94,475	.	237,832
Western Australia. ...	3,056	36,866	. . ..	.	55,015	94,937
Tasmania	13,267	17,322	15,106	21,219	‡2,254	69,168
Commonwealth . ..	1,022,638		487,961	496,816	130,873	2,138,288
New Zealand	82,135	198,678	*293,735	128,721	.....	703,267
Australasia	1,303,449		781,696	625,537	130,873	2,841,555

* Includes £108 on account of Property Tax. † Includes £7,127 from Totalisator Tax.
‡ From Companies' Tax.

Land Revenue.

The practice of treating as ordinary revenue money derived from the sale and occupation of Crown lands obtains in all the colonies, and the money so raised forms one of the largest items of their income. The propriety of so doing is open to grave doubt, but the argument used in its justification is that the sums so obtained have enabled the Government either to construct works, which both enhance the value of the remaining public lands and facilitate settlement, or to endow municipalities, and thus enable them to carry out local works. The revenue from land sales is declining year by year, both absolutely and as compared with population. In New South Wales and South Australia the falling-off has been most noticeable; in the former colony the revenue from this source is now some £1,204,000 less than was the case in 1881, while in South Australia the revenue from land sales is under £36,000.

Adopting the division of land revenue into receipts from sales and receipts from occupation, the following table shows the income for 1881:—

State	Total Land Revenue, 1881			Land Revenue per head								
	From Auction and other classes of sales.	Occupation, &c., of Crown lands.	Total	From Auction and other classes of sales.			Occupation, &c., of Crown lands.			Total.		
	£	£	£	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
New South Wales	2,483,338	337,651	2,820,989	3	4	11	0	5	10	3	13	9
Victoria	701,276	135,194	836,470	0	16	4	0	3	2	0	19	6
Queensland	435,664	186,893	622,557	2	0	6	0	17	5	2	17	11
South Australia	651,914	97,042	748,956	2	8	9	0	7	3	2	16	0
Western Australia	5,750	34,695	40,445	0	3	11	1	3	6	1	7	5
Tasmania	37,269	39,487	76,756	0	6	5	0	6	9	0	13	2
Commonwealth	4,315,211	830,962	5,146,173	1	17	10	0	7	3	2	5	1
New Zealand	376,461	174,479	550,940	0	15	4	0	7	1	1	2	5
Australasia	4,691,672	1,005,441	5,697,113	1	14	2	0	7	4	2	1	6

Compared with 1881, the land revenue for 1899-1900 shows a large decline, amounting to £1,685,885 for the colonies included in the Commonwealth, or to £1,974,596 for the whole of Australasia. The falling off is found entirely in the amount of revenue from sales, that derived from rents having largely increased. However, general remarks applicable to all the colonies can scarcely be made. New South Wales obtained £2,483,338 from land sales in 1881, out of a total of £4,691,672 for all the colonies, or more than one-half; while from occupation its revenue was £337,651 out of £1,005,441, or little more than one-third. In 1899-1900 the revenue of the colony from sales amounted to

8,867 –still a large amount, but £1,204,471 short of the receipts 81. In regard to occupation, a different condition of things is ed. The receipts in New South Wales during 1899-1900 totalled 566, or an increase of £491,915 as compared with 1881, and nting to 52 per cent. of the total of the colonies comprising the onwealth, or to 47 per cent. of the total for Australasia. The ing are the figures for 1899–1900 —

State.	Total Land Revenue, 1900.			Land Revenue per head.								
	From Auction and other classes of sales.	Occupation, &c., of Crown lands.	Total.	From Auction and other classes of sales.			Occupation, &c., of Crown lands.			Total.		
	£	£	£	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
outh Wales .	1,278,867	829,566	2,108,433	0	18	10	0	12	3	1	11	1
ia	279,510	95,757	375,267	0	4	10	0	1	7	0	6	5
land	202,281	416,462	618,743	0	8	5	0	17	3	1	5	8
Australia	34,694	122,422	157,116	0	1	11	0	6	7	0	8	6
n Australia .	38,574	90,952	129,526	0	4	6	0	10	8	0	15	2
nia	35,454	35,749	71,203	0	3	11	0	4	0	0	7	11
mmonwealth . .	1,869,380	1,590,908	3,460,288	0	10	0	0	8	7	0	18	7
Zealand	90,831	171,398	262,229	0	2	5	0	4	6	0	6	11
stralasia	1,960,211	1,762,306	3,722,517	0	8	9	0	7	11	0	16	8

all the colonies, New South Wales and Victoria excepted, a general g fund is established to assist in the redemption of public loans turity, and in New South Wales special sinking funds have been rated in connection with portions of the local funded stocks. lesirability of establishing a general sinking fund is on all sides ted, and a portion of the proceeds of lands sales could with advantage t apart from the general revenue and devoted to this purpose. ria deals with a portion of the proceeds from the sale of Crown apart from the general revenue, and in 1891 a sum of £578,740 d from that source had been placed to the credit of the Railway ruction Account; while since that year various sums have been riated on account of the "Land Sales by Auction Fund" for diture on public works.

Heads of Expenditure.

amount disbursed by the Government of New South Wales is far than that expended by any other colony of the group; in the last al year it exceeded the expenditure of Victoria by £2,492,457, was twice as great as that of New Zealand, and was only £281,000 an the united expenditure of Queensland, South Australia, and rn Australia. This is chiefly owing to the large extent of settled

territory in the colony and the system of centralisation already referred to. Below will be found a statement of the expenditure of each colony during the financial year 1899–1900:—

State	Railways and Tramways	Posts and Telegraphs	Public Instruction	Interest and charges on Public Debt	All other Services	Total Expenditure
	£	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	2,040,320	754,727	720,408	2,504,400	[illegible]	[illegible]
Victoria	1,584,400	520,093	564,199	1,677,701	2,628,906	[illegible]
Queensland	661,291	161,757	251,611	1,161,144	1,641,691	[illegible]
South Australia	691,756	241,401	144,281	1,192,842	[illegible]	[illegible]
Western Australia	884,861	249,909	68,973	823,[illegible]	984,101	[illegible]
Tasmania	172,727	78,605	67,984	510,814	276,278	[illegible]
Commonwealth	6,[illegible]41	2,147,805	1,816,131	7,[illegible]91,778	9,679,[illegible]18	[illegible]
New Zealand	1,[illegible]412	434,582	474,053	1,[illegible]34	1,[illegible]08	[illegible]
Australasia	7,[illegible]873	2,582,487	2,290,344	8,941,132	11,460,[illegible]26	[illegible]

It will be seen from the foregoing statement that for the colonies of the Commonwealth 23·3 per cent. of the whole expenditure is for working the railways of the colonies—a service not undertaken by the Government in the United Kingdom and the United States. Posts and telegraphs absorb 7·7 per cent., while public instruction accounts for 6·4 per cent., and interest on the public debt, 27·02 per cent. For the whole of Australasia the corresponding percentages are:—Railways, 22·8; posts and telegraphs, 7·6; public instruction, 6·8; and interest on the public debt, 28·11 per cent.

Adopting the classification of expenditure used in the preceding table, the amounts per inhabitant of each province are given below. It may be here mentioned that in New South Wales, and to some extent in South Australia and Western Australia, the tramways are the property of the State, and are under the same management as the railways, with which they are included in the various statements in this sub-chapter relating to revenue and expenditure.

State.	Railways and Tramways	Posts and Telegraphs	Public Instruction	Interest and charges on Public Debt	All other Services	Total Expenditure
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
New South Wales	1 10 3	0 11 1	0 10 9	1 18 3	2 14 4	7 4 8
Victoria	1 11 5	0 9 0	0 9 8	1 12 3	2 3 6	6 5 10
Queensland	1 10 3	0 15 0	0 10 5	2 15 6	3 8 1	9 8 3
South Australia	1 17 4	0 11 8	0 8 1	2 15 3	2 6 2	7 18 6
Western Australia	3 3 6	1 8 0	0 8 2	2 11 5	3 14 9	15 5 10
Tasmania	0 17 0	0 8 8	0 5 4	1 15 3	1 10 9	4 17 0
Commonwealth	1 15 2	0 11 8	0 9 9	2 0 9	2 13 7	7 10 1[illegible]
New Zealand	1 7 7	0 10 4	0 12 7	2 6 5	1 19 7	6 16 6
Australasia	1 13 11	0 11 6	0 10 2	2 1 9	2 11 2	7 8 6

The most remarkable feature in the general expenditure of the Australasian colonies is the largeness of the amount required to pay interest and charges on the public debt, both in regard to the rate per head and the proportion of total revenue thus hypothecated. The proportion for the colonies of the Commonwealth is 27·02 per cent. of the total expenditure, or £2 0s. 9d. per head of population, and for the whole of Australasia 28·11 per cent., or £2 1s. 9d. per head. The actual expenditure for each colony during 1899–1900 was as shown below. The amounts given are actual payments made during the financial year, and do not represent the interest liabilities of that period, the amounts of which will be found on page 800 :—

State.	Interest and Charges on Public Debt.		
	Total.	Per head of Population.	Proportion of Total Expenditure.
	£	£ s. d.	per cent.
New South Wales	2,594,406	1 18 3	20 44
Victoria	1,877,701	1 12 3	25 06
Queensland	1,339,149	2 15 6	29 49
South Australia	1,023,842	2 15 3	34 86
Western Australia	431 825	2 11 5	16 81
Tasmania	316 815	1 15 3	36 35
Commonwealth	7,591,738	2 0 9	27 02
New Zealand	1,749,394	2 6 5	34 03
Australasia	9,341,132	2 1 9	28 11

A casual glance at the figures quoted will lend colour to the suggestion sometimes hazarded that the colonies are too rapidly mortgaging their resources, and that the expense of the public debt will prove a greater burthen than can easily be borne. However true this may be as far as any individual colony is concerned, it is certainly erroneous as regards the whole of Australasia. Out of the sum of £7,591,738 required to pay interest and charges on the public debt by the colonies of the Commonwealth during 1899–1900, £4,082,447 was directly recouped by the net revenue from public railways, while water supply and sewerage yielded a further sum of £457,440, making a total of £4,539,887. For the whole of Australasia, the sum required to pay interest and charges on the public debt was £9,341,132, but of this £5,122,862 was directly recouped, viz., £4,664,648 by the net revenue from railways, and £458,214 by water supply and sewerage. Besides this, there is a large indirect revenue obtained by each of the colonies from the opening up of its public lands, and from the construction of breakwaters, wharves, bridges, and other works of public utility. But even these advantages

cash overdraft, the amount represented by outstanding Treasury bills being omitted from consideration :—

State.	Cr Balance	Dr Balance.		
		Overdraft Liquidated by Treasury Bills.	Cash Overdraft.	Total Dr balance.
	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	17,742	2,027,584	....	2,027,584
Victoria		200,000	1,830,386	2,030,386
Queensland	47,789	1,000	..	1,000
South Australia		....	732,784	732,784
Western Australia	12,372	....	....	....
Tasmania	..	....	183,805	183,805
Commonwealth	77,903	2,228,584	2,746,975	4,975,559
New Zealand	818,245	....	....	....
Australasia	896,148	2,228,584	2,746,975	4,975,559

It will be seen that for the colony of New South Wales the table shows an overdraft of £2,027,584 which has been liquidated by Treasury bills, while at the same time the revenue account had a credit balance of £17,742 at the close of the financial year. This is explained by the fact that the Government have decided not to apply this credit balance to the redemption of any part of the outstanding bills, which were issued to cover deficiencies of previous years, but to carry the balance to the next year. This amount of £17,742 included £5,137, held on account of deficiency to the 30th June, 1895, and previous years, for redemption of Treasury bills to cover the deficiency. In reference to the South Australian cash overdraft of £732,784, it should be pointed out that this is obtained by a credit balance of £5,506 for the colony proper, and a debit balance of £738,290 for the Northern Territory. Also, in the case of Tasmania, it is necessary to mention that the cash overdraft of £183,805 shown above was covered by Treasury bills and local inscribed stock to the amount of £141,727, which had been issued and were outstanding at the end of the year.

The condition of the revenue accounts of New South Wales, Victoria, and New Zealand needs further explanation. In New South Wales land was resumed in 1889 for the purpose of facilitating certain improvements in connection with a street facing the General Post-office, Sydney, and it was determined that the sum paid for resumption should not be treated as a matter of ordinary expenditure, but be held in suspense pending the sale of the land resumed, or so much of it as was not needed for the formation of the Post-office street. Another resumption of land by the Government of New South Wales was authorised by the Centenary

Celebration Act of 1887, which provided for the acquisition of a large area of land, close to Sydney, for the formation of a public park to commemorate the centenary of the colony. Of the area so acquired, 640 acres were to be set aside for the park, and the remainder was to be sold, and the proceeds placed against the expenditure. So far no sales have been effected, and in 1894 the payments on account of the formation of the park were transferred from the Consolidated Revenue Fund Account to a special Suspense Account. On the 30th June, 1900, the debit balance of the Centennial Park Account was £228,417, and of the General Post-office New Street Resumption Account, £389,081, neither of which amounts is included in the above table. Legislation has been passed with a view to the issue of Treasury bills covering the liability under the Suspense Accounts referred to; the replacing of £150,000 to the credit of the sinking fund for Railway Loan, 53 Vic. No. 24, which was applied to the redemption of the balance of Railway Loan, 31 Vic. No. 11, to meet deficiencies in the Consolidated Revenue to 30th June, 1899, caused by the London transactions being brought to 30th June instead of 31st March as hitherto, and to meet the balance of extraordinary expenditure on account of military contingents to South Africa, and in connection with the bubonic plague. The authority is for the issue of Treasury bills to the amount of £930,965, and will cover all deficiencies to 30th June, 1900. Provision is made that on the 31st December, 1901, and on the same day in each year thereafter, until all the payments provided for have been made, the sum of £250,000 is to be paid from the Consolidated Revenue Fund to the credit of the respective accounts mentioned. Such annual sums are in the first place to be paid to the credit of a special Trust Account. In addition to the annual sum of £250,000, the net proceeds of the sales of the unsold portions of the land resumed under the General Post Office (Approaches Improvement) Act of 1889, and the net proceeds of the sale of the unsold portions of the land referred to in the Centenary Celebration Act of 1887 (Centennial Park), are to be paid to the credit of the account. The moneys at credit of such account are to be applied to the purpose of reducing the Treasury bills issued under the contemplated legislation, and where all such bills have been redeemed the account is to be closed. The appropriation of £250,000 is, however, to continue to redeem bills issued under the Deficiency Act of 1889, and on the redemption of these bills, the same annual appropriation is to be applied to redeem bills issued under the Deficiency Act of 1895. When this has been effected the appropriation is to lapse. The annual appropriation of £150,000 under the Deficiency Act of 1889 continues, so that the total annual appropriation for the liquidation of the unfunded debt for revenue purposes will be £400,000.

In Victoria certain public works were undertaken on the understanding that the cost should be defrayed from the proceeds of the sale of certain lands specifically set apart for the purpose. These works have been constructed, but the sales have fallen short to the extent

of £400,481, and this sum has been placed to a Suspense Account, which is likewise excluded from the debit balance given above. In the credit balance of New Zealand, shown on page 794, allowance has been made for the transactions of several Suspense Accounts, viz., the State Forests Account, the Local Bodies Account, and the Deposits Account; but in order to place the revenue and expenditure of that colony on the same footing as those of the other provinces, the operations on the accounts referred to have not been taken into consideration in the table on page 770.

The practice of issuing Treasury bills for the purpose of liquidating an overdraft, which is illustrated by the above table, obtains in all the colonies, the bills being in this respect somewhat like the exchequer bills issued by the British Treasury. This, however, is the only point of resemblance between the two. The British exchequer bills bear interest at a rate which is fixed from year to year, and at the end of every twelve months the holder has the option of retaining them or presenting them at the Treasury for payment. They are, therefore, readily saleable, and are used with great freedom in commercial transactions, for, as will be seen, they combine the two advantages of ready money and money bearing interest. The Treasury bills of these colonies, on the other hand, are only payable at the Treasury on the expiry of the period for which they are issued, and they carry interest at a fixed rate during the whole term of currency; consequently they are not used to any extent in commerce. The nearest approach to the British system seems to prevail in New Zealand, where Treasury bills to the amount of £700,000 were outstanding at the close of the financial year, but are not included in the public debt. With the exception of these New Zealand bills, Treasury bills are regarded as unfunded or floating debt, and until wiped off form part of the public debt. The bonus inscribed stock issued by Tasmania is similarly considered as unfunded debt.

Trust Funds

It may be pointed out here that all the Governments in Australasia hold sums in trust, either directly or indirectly. In some instances these sums are considerable, and are found extremely useful in adjusting the finances, forming a strong reserve which a Government is able to use in tiding over temporary difficulties. It is, however, very questionable whether the existence of a large balance, out of which a necessitous Treasurer can make advances to an overdrawn Revenue or Loans Account, is desirable. In past years it has led to much extravagance that a Treasurer forced to rely on the legitimate revenue of the country would have been compelled to avoid. Several colonies have seen this, and in New Zealand and South Australia public trustees have been appointed to control Trust Funds in the hands of the Government; but in the other colonies these funds are directly subject to the Treasury. The

following are the balances of the Trust Funds at the close of the financial year 1899–1900 :—

	£
New South Wales	10,103,940
Victoria	8,232,499
Queensland	3,638,600
South Australia	449,275
Western Australia	1,802,142
Tasmania	439,786
Commonwealth	24,666,242
New Zealand	2,192,594
Australasia	26,858,836

Growth of Public Debt.

The practice of raising money for State purposes by means of public loans was begun in 1842, when New South Wales issued debentures redeemable in two years and bearing interest at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum. The sum raised £45,900 was devoted to immigration purposes. This, as well as the succeeding loans, nine in number, raised prior to 1855, was obtained locally; in the year named, however, New South Wales placed on the London market the first instalment of a 5 per cent. loan for £683,300, which was the first external loan raised, and may be rightly said to mark the commencement of the present Australasian indebtedness.

So far as most of the colonies are concerned, their public debts date from about the time of their assuming the control of their own affairs: but Western Australia, which obtained responsible government in 1890, incurred liabilities in London as far back as 1872. In the case of that colony, however, the granting of Parliamentary government was unduly delayed. The following table is interesting as showing the liabilities of each of the provinces at the date of its taking charge of its own affairs:

State	Date of obtaining Responsible Government.	Amount of Debt Liability at that date.
		£
New South Wales	1855	1,366,770
Victoria	1855	480,000
Queensland	1859	Nil
South Australia	1856	294,900
Western Australia	1890	1,307,444
Tasmania	1855	Nil
New Zealand	1856	Nil

No feature of Australasian finance is so astonishing as the growth of the public indebtedness, and this fact has formed the gravamen of the many indictments which have been urged against the colonies during

recent years. The debts have undoubtedly grown at a much more rapid pace than the population, but as the colonies were in an extremely undeveloped state when public borrowing first came into favour the more rapid growth of their indebtedness as compared with the population was in a sense the corollary of the position taken up by the various Governments—that the State should reserve to itself the construction of railways and similar undertakings which in other countries are prosecuted by private enterprise. Even with this explanation, however, the figures in the following statement are sufficiently striking:—

State	1861	1871	1881.	1891	1899-1900
	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	4,017,630	10,614,330	16,924,019	52,950,733	65,332,093
Victoria	6,345,060	11,994,800	22,426,502	43,438,807	49,894,885
Queensland	70,000	4,047,850	13,245,150	20,[illegible],134	34,349,411
South Australia ...	866,500	2,167,700	11,196,800	20,317,125	26,[illegible],780
Western Australia	1,750	Nil	511,000	1,013,594	11,674,340
Tasmania	Nil	1,315,290	2,003,000	7,110,290	8,413,694
Commonwealth.	11,300,940	30,139,880	66,306,471	155,117,773	195,227,408
New Zealand	600,761	8,900,991	29,059,111	38,844,914	47,874,452
Australasia	11,901,701	39,040,871	95,965,582	193,962,687	243,101,858

The amounts for the year 1899-1900 represent both funded and unfunded debt. In round figures the increase for the colonies of the Commonwealth from 1861 to 1871 was 19 millions, from 1871 to 1881, 36 millions, from 1881 to 1891, 89 millions; and from 1891 to 1900, 40 millions, or for the whole of Australasia, from 1861 to 1871, 27 millions, from 1871 to 1881, 57 millions, from 1881 to 1891, 98 millions, and from 1891 to 1900, 49 millions. It must be pointed out that the figures in the last column show the public indebtedness as represented by outstanding debentures or stock, but the real sum is less by the amount of sinking funds in the case of all the colonies except Victoria, viz., New South Wales, £266,970; Queensland, £13,715; South Australia, £30,318; Western Australia, £377,161; Tasmania, £159,603; and New Zealand, £944,375. In New South Wales, sinking funds have been established in connection with some of the recent loans for the purpose of extinguishing portions of the expenditure on works of an unproductive character, the total amount accrued to 30th June, 1900, being £116,970. There are also annual payments on account of one of the railway loans and the Treasury bills in aid of revenue, but the instalments in the latter case are deducted annually, and the net indebtedness shown in the statement of the public debt, while for the redemption of the railway loan an amount of £150,000 was in hand at the same date.

The figures showing the total amount of the debt of each colony would be incomplete without corresponding information respecting the debt per head of population. In 1861 the public debt of the colonies included in the Commonwealth stood at £9 13s. 8d. per inhabitant; in 1871, at £17 13s. 11d.; in 1881, at £28 10s. 9d.; in 1891, at £47 14s. 1d.; while in 1900 it was £52 2s. 2d. The corresponding figures for Australasia were: in 1861, £9 8s.; in 1871, £19 16s. 4d.; in 1881, £34 0s. 2d.; in 1891, £49 18s. 4d.; and in 1900, £53 19s. 1d. For each colony the figures are as follow:—

State.	1861.			1871.			1881.			1891.			1899–1900.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
New South Wales	11	4	5	20	10	0	21	14	8	45	10	8	48	0	0
Victoria	11	14	3	16	0	11	25	9	7	37	14	4	42	4	6
Queensland	2	0	9	32	6	11	58	7	2	73	12	5	70	7	9
South Australia ...	6	16	8	11	13	7	39	2	1	62	9	11	70	15	0
Western Australia	0	2	3	Nil.			17	0	6	30	5	8	65	10	4
Tasmania	Nil.			12	18	5	16	16	10	46	11	10	46	3	1
Commonwealth	9	13	8	17	13	11	28	10	9	47	14	1	52	2	2
New Zealand	6	1	4	33	6	9	59	4	2	61	5	3	63	2	5
Australasia ...	9	8	0	19	16	4	34	0	2	49	18	4	53	19	1

Of the £195,227,406 which constituted the debt of the colonies of the Commonwealth in 1900, £188,453,095 represented funded debt raised either as debentures or as funded or inscribed stock, and £6,774,311 unfunded or floating debt. For the whole of Australasia, the total debt of £243,101,858 was divided into £236,327,547 of funded debt and £6,774,311 of unfunded debt. The local inscribed stock raised by Tasmania is included in the unfunded debt. The particulars for each colony will be found below:—

State.	Date.	Debenture Bonds.	Inscribed and Funded Stock	Treasury Bills		Total
				For Works.	In aid of Revenue	
		£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	30 June, 1900	10,100,350	51,602,059	*1,504,000	2,027,584	65,[illegible]
Victoria	30 June, 1900	19,266,705	28,758,090	1,050,000	250,000	49,[illegible]
Queensland	30 June, 1900	12,284,580	22,064,034	.. .. ..	1,000	34,349,414
South Australia	30 June, 1900	9,485,100	16,[illegible],680		.	26,13[illegible],780
Western Australia.	30 June, 1900	352,500	9,[illegible],140	1,800,000	.	11,674,649
Tasmania .	31 Dec., 1899	3,264,720	5,007,247		141,727	8,413,694
Commonwealth.	.. .. ..	54,762,845	133,690,250	4,354,000	2,420,311	195,227,406
New Zealand .	31 Mar., 1900	6,265,686	41,608,766	..	..	47,874,452
Australasia .	.. ..	61,028,531	175,299,016	4,354,000	2,420,311	243,101,858

* £4,000 overdue.

The relative burthen of the public debt of the various colonies is not to be determined only by comparing the gross amounts with the population for the rate of interest payable must also be taken into consideration. Thus the general average interest payable by New South Wales is 3·62 per cent., while South Australia pays 3·79 per cent., so that a debt of £100 in the former is not more burthensome than £95 10s 5d in the latter colony. A more exact basis of comparison is obtained by taking the interest actually paid, which is shown below. The interest given is on the supposition that the debt is outstanding for the whole of the year including the day on which the accounts are made up. The whole debt, interest and liabilities, has been included.

	Average rate of Interest.			Amount of Interest.	
	Public Debt.	Interest-bearing Debt.	Total.	Amount on interest-bearing Liabilities.	Per Inhabitant.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	£	£ s. d.
	3·43		3·62	2,369,392	1 14 4
	3·73		3·83	1,887,355	1 12 3
	4·00		3·78	1,296,784	2 13 2
			3·79	989,578	2 13 7
	3·78		3·44	402,253	2 1 2
	3·65		3·76	316,147	1 14 8
	3·72	3·58	3·72	7,261,509	1 18 9
	3·79		3·79	1,816,592	2 7 11
	3·74	3·58	3·73	9,078,101	2 0 4

The nominal rate of interest on New South Wales loans was at which rate stock to the amount of £29,326,20 June, 1900. This example was not followed by an until 1888, when Queensland successfully float at the reduced rate, and in 1889 Victoria Tasmania, and New Zealand, in the order named, were stock at a similar nominal rate. Through the financial crisis, the nominal rate for those colonies was was increased to 4 per cent. Early in the following South Australia and Tasmania again placed loans on the lower rate. New Zealand, in May, 1895, was the first a 3 per cent. loan—an example which was followed New South Wales in October of the same year, and by all the since that date. Tasmania, however, has so far only floated stock at 3 per cent. Below will be found the amount debt under each rate of interest. For Tasmania, the refer to the 31st December, 1899; for New Zealand, to

the 31st March, 1900; and for all the other colonies to the 30th June, 1900:

Rate of Interest.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Commonwealth.	New Zealand.	Australasia.
				FUNDED DEBT.					
Per cent.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Nil.	1,300				..		1,300	720	2,020
6	92,000		...	666,200	32,500	127,100	917,800	56,000	973,800
5½	4,500	.	. .		.	.	4,500		4,500
5	1,758,000			290,000	83,100	100	2,081,200	710,700	2,791,900
4½	3,700	5,000,000			77,800		5,081,500	52,900	5,134,400
4	21,067,440	26,310,705	21,384,300	16,302,400	3,010,930	4,136,820	92,210,685	31,365,602	123,576,287
3½								340,000	340,000
3½	29,326,200	12,000,000	10,480,034	3,305,000	820,510	3,527,632	59,536,776	9,483,720	69,010,496
3	9,600,269	4,714,000	2,474,480	5,510,180	5,850,000	480,315	28,629,334	4,855,810	34,486,144
Total	61,801,409	48,024,885	34,348,414	26,131,780	9,874,040	8,271,967	188,453,095	47,874,452	236,327,547
				UNFUNDED DEBT. (*Treasury Bills and Local Inscribed Stock.*)					
Nil	4,000	..	.	.	....		4,000	....	4,000
4½			.	.	.	46,000	46,000	. .	46,000
4	1,269,500	750,000	1,000	.	1,000,000	3,100	3,023,600	. .	3,023,600
3½	500,000	250,000		....	800,000	36,120	1,586,120		1,586,120
3½	.	300,000	. .		.		300,000	.	300,000
3	1,758,084	.	.		.	55,007	1,813,091		1,813,091
Total	3,531,584	1,300,000	1,000	....	1,800,000	141,727	6,774,311		6,774,311
Total Debt	65,332,993	49,324,885	34,349,414	26,131,780	11,674,040	8,413,094	195,227,406	47,874,452	243,101,858

The treasury bills of New Zealand do not rightly form part of the public debt, and such of these as were outstanding have therefore been excluded from the foregoing statement.

REDEMPTION OF LOANS.

Loans are either redeemed or renewed. In the former case, the amount of the obligations of the State to its public creditors is reduced; in the latter case, the liability remains the same or is only slightly altered. Repayments, however, are chiefly effected under the head of renewals, the amount of loans redeemed from revenue—by sinking fund, annual drawings, or directly from the general account—being small. The principle of extinguishing public debt by the operation of sinking

The relative burthen of the pub
be determined only by comparing
for the rate of interest payable
Thus the general average interest
per cent., while South Australia
£100 in the former is not more
latter colony. A more exact basis
the interest liability, which is
the supposition that the debt is
following the day on which the
funded and unfunded, has been

State	Avera[illegible] Funded Debt
	per cent
New South Wales	3·64
Victoria	3·83
Queensland	3·77
South Australia	3·79
Western Australia	3·3[illegible]
Tasmania	3·7[illegible]
Commonwealth	3·7[illegible]
New Zealand	3·7[illegible]
Australasia	[illegible]

In 1884 the nominal
at 3½ per cent., at
[illegible] sold to June
other colonies
of £2,520,000
Australia, Tas
[illegible] in issuing
of the [illegible]
[illegible] 1893 [illegible]
[illegible] with A

w, but so far it has treated the question
ely. The principle of adopting a minimum
payment has been so recently introduced
attempt has been made to show specially
to date the period of redemption in each
more remote date

South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Commonwealth.	New Zealand	Australasia
£	£	£	£	£	£
			1,550	720	2,270
		31,230	892,820	442,600	1,366,650
67,800	32,500	278,600	3,700,000		4,078,900
63,000	34,000	151,441	709,441	550,000	1,259,441
6,000	11,500	68,575	1,103,715	10,000	1,113,715
62,500		24,340	5,001,140	156,000	5,157,140
79,000	17,000	173,886	1,167,780	557,800	1,725,580
14,000			21,000	985,106	1,006,106
1,037,200			5,037,500	1,000,000	6,037,500
1,971,100		533,015	5,734,717	400,000	6,134,717
3,100,000		40,000	4,060,200	451,000	4,511,200
400,000	70,310		2,956,019	460,467	3,416,486
68,000		1,000,000	1,068,000		1,068,000
85,000			6,153,000		6,153,000
40,000		540,000	6,040,450	400,300	6,440,750
35,000		800,000	835,000	331,800	1,166,800
726,800			11,765,800	5,800	11,771,600
9,000			9,021,880	12,200	9,034,080
5,400,000			5,540,200		5,540,200
1,474,400			14,900,600	. .	14,900,600
90,000			4,240,050	. .	4,330,050
330,000	.	300,000	6,630,800		6,930,800
			. .	500,000	500,000
		.	63,000		63,000
			7,740,705	.	7,740,705
12,075,834	1,661,300	.	51,428,100		51,428,100
	. .		2,225		2,225
000 . .		07,000	7,174,600		7,174,600
	1,000,000		1,000,000		1,000,000
200,000		.	200,000	20,150,302	20,350,302
3,704,800			3,704,800		3,704,800
	1,870,000		1,870,000		1,870,000
	975,850	.	1,650,000		2,625,850
	4,000,000		10,000,000	.	10,000,000
1,000	1,100,000		1,432,000		1,432,000
10,000			2,715,000	. .	2,715,000
	. .	4,400,500	4,400,500	6,161,167	10,617,067
2,000,000			2,000,000	5,875,810	7,875,810
1,724,480	.		1,724,480	. . .	1,724,480
1,701,570			1,701,570	. . .	1,701,570
750,000			750,000		750,000
. . .		. . .	532,800		532,800
		230,000	236,000	389,700	625,700
1,059,511			1,059,511	.	1,059,511
24,885,314,348,414	26,131,780	9,354,64	8,271,8 7	188,455,095	47,874,462	230,327,547

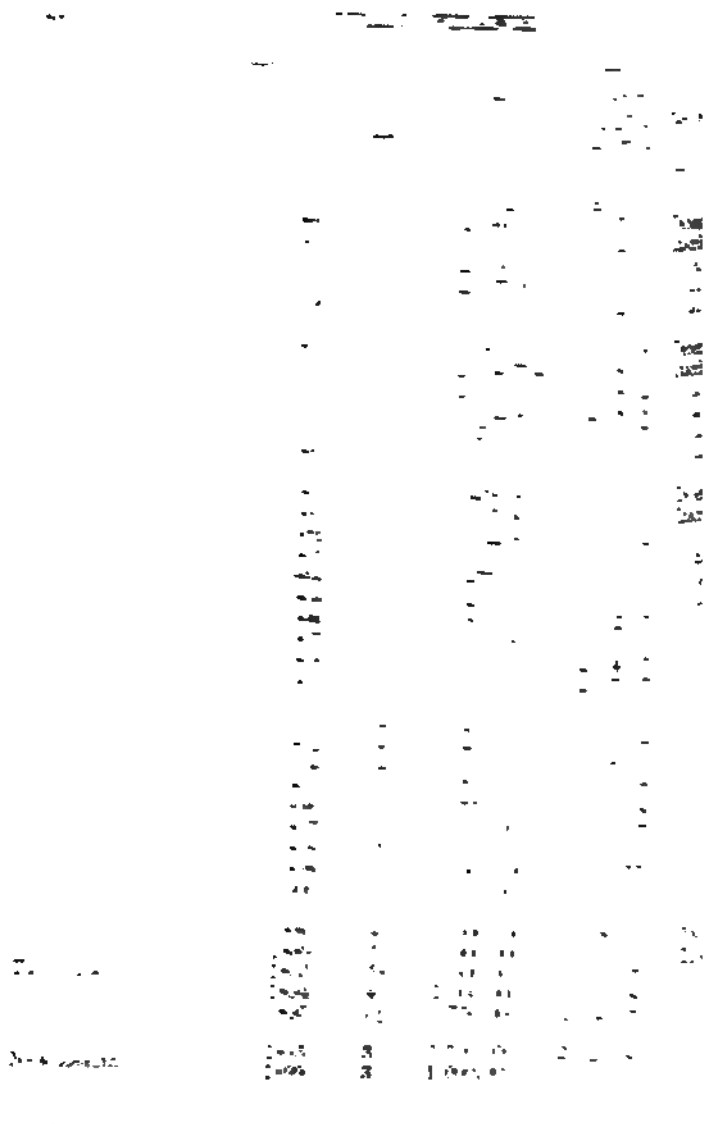
placed on the
colonies have
money which the
Wales, South

posed by the British Government on inscribed stock, the other being for services rendered. New South Wales, Queensland, and aland issue their stock through the Bank of England, the and Westminster Bank acts for Victoria and Western Australia. ustralia issues its loans through its Agent-General in London; the case of Tasmania also the Agent General is the channel whom the loans are placed, but he has the assistance of the and Westminster Bank.

ost of negotiation by the Bank of England is ½ per cent com ; and by the London and Westminster Bank, ¾ per cent ge costs ¾ per cent. In addition to these charges and the stamp erred to above, there has usually to be added 4d. or 5d. per £100 dental expenses. The charges annually made by the Bank of l for the inscription and management of stock and the payment half-yearly dividends were £600 per million for the first ten , £550 for the next five, and £500 per million for all sub- amounts. But in 1895 these rates were reduced by £100 ion to the three colonies employing the Bank while from 899, all amounts raised through the agency of the Bank of l, on behalf of New South Wales, are charged £200 per million. rges of the London and Westminster Bank were £500 per for the first ten millions, £450 for a second like sum, and £400 ion for any subsequent amount to the end of 1897, when the n Government arranged with the Bank to reduce its rates for on of stock to £250 per million, without regard to the total inscribed.

he old form of debenture the stamp duty imposed is 2s 6d. ., or £1,250 per million. The expenditure per £100 deben- inscribed stock of those colonies for which information is ble is given in the subjoined table. The debenture rates shown e of the last issued. It will be seen that the cost of floating d stock loans is much greater than that under the debenture but the extra outlay is inappreciable when compared with the ges gained.—

State	Year of Negotiation	Principal. Rate of Interest	Principal. Amount	Expenses per £100 Debenture and Stock. £ s. d.	Class of Stock.
			£		
	1883	4	2,000,000	0 11 5	Debentures.
	1889	3½	3,500,000	1 7 10	Inscribed
	1891	3½	4,000,000	1 7 9	do.
th Wales. .	1893	4	2,500,000	1 8 0	do.
	1894	3½	832,000	1 9 5	do.
	1895	3	4,000,000	1 7 10	do.
	1898	3	1,500,000	1 8 5	do.



Against several loans the expenses have not been stated. Information has not been computed by the colony interested. high rate of expenses on the 1893 Queensland loan is accounted partly by the fact that the amount was underwritten at the 1 per cent.

Quotations of Stock.

nother chapter the growth of Australasian indebtedness on account has been traced over a period of about twenty-nine and it has been shown that during that time nearly the whole of vances made to the various State Governments, and over one d millions of private advances, have been obtained in Great . This condition of dependence on external capital for the ment of the country has on more than one occasion proved a anger to Australasia, but never to the same extent as during is of 1892 93, when the withdrawal of confidence on the part British investor caused widespread confusion in almost every ment of industry, and intense financial unrest, from which some colonies have not yet recovered, although, as will be seen from the ed table, Australasian stocks are now quoted at satisfactory pric es. quotations for Colonial stocks in the London markets at the June, 1892, 1893, 1894, and 1900 are given below, the price in stance being "cum dividend." With one exception—India—otations are for loans raised on the security of the local revenues country borrowing; in the case of India there is an Imperial tee. This advantage has also been extended to some Canadian, ius, and New Zealand loans, but these are not quoted in the ng list. In passing, it may be mentioned that the guarantee of itish Government is certainly to the advantage of the depen to which it has been extended, as in addition to the absolute y afforded, it carries the right of trustees in the United Kingdom st trust funds in the stock—a privilege not extended to Austral ecurities in general:

Country	Class of Stock.	Selling Price "cum dividend,"			
		June, 1892.	June, 1893.	June, 1894.	June, 1900.
ania					
South Wales	3½ per cent. Inscribed	96⅝	93	98⅝	104
ria	3½ do do	97	88½	97½	102
sland	4 do do	103½	99	104	106
Australia	4 do do	106	103	106¼	108
rn Australia	4 do do	103½	104	108	114
ania	4 do do	103	98½	103	101
Zealand	4 do do	104½	104½	108¾	110
	3 do do	94½	96	97	102
lony	4 do do	106	108	112	107
	4 do do	103	108	109	112
	3 do Stocks	97¼	98½	99¼	99

rder to make the comparison between different stocks quite fair, hings than bare quotations on a given date—chiefly the accrued

interest and the unexpired currency of the scrip—have to be considered. A uniform date for the payment of interest on loans has not been adopted, so that the amount of interest accrued at the above-quoted dates varies with each loan; while the date on which the loan is repayable is a factor not to be neglected in estimating the price of a stock. The return obtained by investors from the inscribed stock of each colony on the basis of previous quotations, allowing for interest accrued and redemption at par on maturity, is given below :—

Country.	Nominal rate of Interest.	Selling Price, "ex dividend."	Currency.	Effective annual Rate of Interest per £100 sterling. If no allowance is made for redemption at par on maturity.	Effective annual Rate of Interest per £100 sterling. Rate if Stock is held till date of maturity.
	℘ cent.	£	Years.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
June, 1892.					
Australasia—					
New South Wales	3½	96·19	32	3 13 5	3 14 2½
Victoria	3½	95·45	31	3 13 11½	3 15 0
Queensland	4	101·72	32	3 19 5	3 19 1½
South Australia	4	105·22	44	3 16 9½	3 16 4
Western Australia	4	101·72	42	3 19 5	3 19 3
Tasmania	4	101·22	16	3 19 10	3 19 [illegible]
New Zealand	4	104·05	37	3 17 8	3 17 1½
Canada	3	93·17	46	3 4 10½	3 5 7½
Cape Colony	4	105·80	31	3 16 3½	3 15 1½
Natal	4	102·55	34	3 18 9½	3 18 4½
India	3	96·69	56	3 2 6½	3 2 9
June, 1893.					
Australasia—					
New South Wales	3½	92·33	31	3 16 5½	3 18 2½
Victoria	3½	86·97	30	4 1 2¾	4 4 3½
Queensland	4	97·25	31	4 3 1	4 3 7½
South Australia	4	102·23	[illegible]	3 19 0½	3 18 10
Western Australia	4	102·25	41	3 19 0½	3 18 9½
Tasmania	4	96·75	15	4 3 6	4 6 0½
New Zealand	[illegible]	104·06	36	3 17 8	3 17 1
Canada	3	94·68	45	3 3 10	3 4 5½
Cape Colony	4	107·90	30	3 14 10½	3 13 2½
Natal	4	107·56	33	3 15 1½	3 13 9½
India	3	97·92	55	3 1 8½	3 1 0½

Nominal rate of Interest.	Selling Price, "ex dividend"	Currency	Investor's annual Rate of Interest per £100 sterling. If no allowance is made for redemption at par on maturity			Rate if Stock is held till date of maturity.		
Per cent.	£	Years.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
June, 1894.								
3½	98 21	30	3	11	10⅜	3	12	4
3½	95 92	29	3	13	7¼	3	14	8
4	102 25	30	3	19	0½	3	18	6½
4	105 74	42	3	16	5	3	15	10⅝
4	100 25	40	3	16	0½	3	15	4½
4	101·25	14	3	19	9½	3	18	9
4	108 45	35	3	14	6	3	13	2½
3	9[illegible]·68	44	3	3	2½	3	3	8
4	111·91	29	3	12	2½	3	9	5
4	108·37	32	3	14	5	3	12	9½
3	98·68	54	3	1	3	3	1	4½
June, 1900.								
	103·15	24	3	8	5½	3	7	3½
	100·27	23	3	10	5	3	10	3
	104·02	24	3	17	8			

those dates. In 1893 there was naturally a heavy fall, as compared with the preceding year, in all Australasian securities except those of New Zealand and Western Australia. Victorian stock showed the largest fall—which was only to be expected in view of the fact that the panic originated in that colony, and Victorian finances generally were at a low ebb. The quotation for New Zealand stock at the middle of 1893 was the same as that of the preceding year, which seemed to point to the conclusion that the London market did not consider the interests of New Zealand to be bound up with those of the colonies on the mainland. In 1895 a great improvement took place in the prices of stock of all the colonies, and the rise has since been well maintained. To illustrate the fluctuations in the prices of colonial securities, the rates obtained during 1892, 1893, 1894, and 1900 are given below in a simpler form than in the preceding table. During the same periods British consols were selling at 98¼, 97, 99, and 100⅛:—

Country	1892.	1893.	1894.	1900.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Australasia—				
New South Wales	3 14 2¾	3 18 2¼	3 12 4	3 7 3¾
Victoria	3 15 0	4 4 3¼	3 14 8	3 10 3¾
Queensland	3 19 1¼	4 3 7⅓	3 18 6½	3 16 3¾
South Australia	3 16 4	3 18 10	3 15 10½	3 14 6
Western Australia	3 19 3	3 18 9½	3 15 4¾	3 10 1¼
Tasmania	3 19 0	4 6 0¼	3 18 9	4 3 5¼
New Zealand	3 17 1¾	3 17 1	3 13 2½	3 11 8¾
Canada	3 5 7⅓	3 4 5½	3 3 8	3 0 0¼
Cape Colony	3 15 1½	3 13 2¾	3 9 5	3 13 3¾
Natal	3 18 4½	3 13 9¾	3 12 9¾	3 9 7
India	3 2 9	3 1 0¼	3 1 4¼	3 1 11

So far only the return yielded to the investor has been considered. The following table shows the average prices obtained by the Australasian Governments for some of their last issues, and the quotations for

the same stocks in June, 1900, the latter prices being, of course, "ex dividend":

State	Date of Negotiation	Rate per cent	Amount of Issue	Average price realised	Quotation ex dividend, June, 1900.
			£	£	£
New South Wales	1895	3	4,000,000	95 14	98 27
Do	1898	3	1,500,000	98 45	98 27
Victoria	1893	4	2,107,000	96 80	104 03
Do	1899	3	1,600,000	93 21	†
Queensland	1897	3	1,000,000	95 61	94 52
South Australia	1896	3	839,500	95 34	90 52
Do	1897	3	500,000	96 05	90 52
Do	1899	3	1,500,000	92 67	90 52
Do	1900	3	1,000,000	*	†
Western Australia	1897	3	1,000,000	93 45	90 51
Do	1898	3	1,000,000	94 76	†
Do	1898	3	1,000,000	91 64	90 51
Do	1900	3	1,000,000	*	†
Tasmania	1895	3½	750,000	98 30	100 27
New Zealand	1895	3	1,500,000	93 73	90 27
Do	1899	3	1,000,000	*	†

* Not yet brought to account † No quotation

Character of Stock Issued.

By far the larger part of Australasian loans is inscribed, and the outstanding issues under the debenture system are being converted into inscribed stock as quickly as circumstances permit. New Zealand was the first colony to introduce inscription in 1877, in which year was passed the Consolidated Stock Act, a measure made necessary by the abolition of the Provincial Councils. Under this Act the liabilities of the various provinces were merged into the general debt of the colony, and under the same Act and its amendment of 1884 the Government has worked systematically to consolidate the debt by conversion and inscription, so that in March, 1900, the whole of the public liabilities were inscribed, with the exception of £6,265,686 represented by debentures. The Consolidated Stock Act of New Zealand was assented to in December, 1877; and in August of that year the Imperial Parliament passed the Colonial Stock Act, which provided for the inscription and transfer of Colonial stock raised in the United Kingdom. Certain steps were required to be taken before a colony could take advantage of the provisions of the Imperial Act. As already mentioned, New Zealand passed the necessary legislation at the end of 1877; but nothing was done by the other colonies until 1882, when Victoria and South Australia passed Inscribed Stock Acts; New South Wales and Queensland passed similar legislation in the following year, Western Australia in

1881, and Tasmania in 1889. It will thus be seen that a gradual change in the mode of floating loans for public purposes has been going on since 1877, and the time cannot be far distant when the whole debt of each colony will be represented by one class of stock. In 1879, or two years after passing the Consolidated Stock Act, New Zealand placed on the market a 5 per cent. loan of £5,000,000 at 97½ in the form of debentures, the subscribers having the option up to March, 1881, of exchanging for 4 per cent. inscribed stock, at the rate of £120 of stock for each £100 of debentures. The loan was successfully floated, and within the stated period £1,476,000 of the £5,000,000 debentures were exchanged for £1,771,200 inscribed stock at 4 per cent. The other colonies issued inscribed stock loans shortly after passing the respective Acts.

The Imperial Colonial Stock Act, 1877, as previously mentioned, provides for the inscription and transfer of stock raised in the United Kingdom and for stamp duty to be levied thereon. It also defines the position of the British Government as regards Colonial indebtedness, and provides that every document connected with stock transactions shall have printed upon it a distinct intimation that no liability, direct or indirect, is incurred by the British Government in respect of such stock, unless the loan is under Imperial guarantee.

The difference between registered and inscribed stock is practically small. Transactions under the former head are confined to a few old funded stock loans. Debentures and inscribed stock form the principal classes of securities, and, as previously pointed out, the debenture form is rapidly giving way to inscription. Debenture coupons are like ordinary scrip, negotiable by bearer, and are liable to the risk of forgery. By inscription the possibilities of fraud in transfer are minimised, as the stock is inscribed in the books of the bank, and transferable therein by the stock-holders personally or by their attorneys without the issue of certificates of stock. In the case of registered stock, certificates are issued transferable by deed.

The practice of issuing treasury bills, either in anticipation of or to make good deficiencies in revenue, obtains in each colony, and, as previously explained, is an old-established custom; but treasury bills have been made to serve another purpose, and money has been raised by their sale to meet certain obligations for public works. This is an innovation which could not well be avoided in the disturbed markets of the last few years. The bills are in reality ordinary loans with short currencies, and carry generally a higher rate of interest than issues of the funded debt. The unsatisfactory state of Australasian finance does not allow of the immediate redemption of these bills; consequently they will either have to be renewed or converted into stock, an operation which will entail an additional expenditure to the charges of first negotiation. The New Zealand treasury bills are issued direct by the Treasury at par, and the expenses of negotiation are small. The bills are usually redeemed during the year of issue, and for this reason they have not been included with or considered as part of the public debt of New Zealand, though

the case of the other colonies treasury bills have been so included. stralasian treasury bills are like the British treasury bills in name s, but they have some points in common with the British exchequer ds.

Conversion and Consolidation of Loans.

Conversion and consolidation as applied to loans are not interchange terms, but represent two distinct transactions in so far related that ithout conversion consolidation would be impracticable. All the onies are systematically converting their old loans into inscribed ck, and by so doing they are taking a step towards consolidation. ce the Consolidated Stock Act was passed in 1877, New Zealand s been engaged in converting its old loans into inscribed stock, and solidating the whole debt by adopting three uniform interest rates of 4, 3½, and 3 per cent., and fixing the dates of maturity at 1929, 1940, and 45 respectively. The transactions in conversion and consolidation in ew Zealand from 1877 to 31st March, 1900 were as stated below. n addition to the transactions shown, old debentures to the amount of 5,716,000 were converted into short-dated debentures under the 1884 onsolidated Stock Act, pending subsequent conversion into inscribed tock; of these short-dated debentures, £4,257,700 have since been onverted into 4 per cent. stock, and are included in the £19,724,400 hown below. The amount of these debentures outstanding on 31st March, 1900, was £1,458,300:

Amount of Old Debentures converted or Redeemed.	Additional Capital added to Principal by Conversion or Consolidation.	New Stock Issued		
		Nominal Rate of Interest.	Amount.	Date of Maturity.
£	£		£	
13,724,400	1,600,902	4 per cent.	21,325,302	1929
5,720,750	440,617	3½ ,,	6,161,167	1940
3,325,546	40,135	3 ,,	3,365,681	1945

The loading of the principal by conversion appears heavy; but New Zealand was saddled with a number of small loans, much after the type of municipal borrowings, which it was most desirable should be consolidated without delay, and some sacrifice was made to accomplish this; besides, the compensation obtained in a lower rate of interest must be set against the increased capital. The annual saving in interest on the amount converted to the 31st March, 1900, is stated as £202,507, viz., £97,102,114 on the 4 per cent., £65,049 on the 3½ per cent., and £35,344 on the 3 per cent. stock. All conversions into short-dated debentures took place at par, the saving in interest thereby amounting to £7,705 annually, in addition to the £202,507 shown above. The subject of the New Zealand conversion is a large one, and inquirers should consult the

publications of the Government of that colony, which give details that would hardly be in place in a volume such as this.

In Victoria the 4 per cent. stock floated in Melbourne to the amount of £2,089,613 has been converted into 3 per cent. stock, with the exception of £120,062 subsequently redeemed. The saving in interest by the conversion is £19,696.

Late Issues of Loans and Treasury Bills.

As late as the year 1890 the colonies could borrow in London on very favourable terms, but in the year named the conditions were no longer satisfactory. This change had for its immediate cause a condition of things not of Australasia's own creation, the Baring failure and the Argentine crisis being primarily responsible for the stoppage of Australasian credit; but there is no reasonable ground for supposing that if the Baring failure had not taken place the London markets would have been much longer open to the Australasian colonies. The Treasurers of the various provinces were entirely unprepared for this revulsion in credit. They were committed to engagements for the construction of public works which they could not terminate; contracts had been entered into for large sums on the assumption that funds would be available; besides this, no preparations had been made to meet debentures falling due in a short time. The sudden stoppage of credit greatly embarrassed the Governments, and most of the colonies had recourse to treasury bills to enable them to adjust their finances to the altered circumstances. The amounts received from the sale of these bills were devoted to meeting loans maturing, and providing funds for public works already contracted for. Pressing necessities and the improved condition of the London market encouraged several of the colonies during 1893 and 1894 to place ordinary loan issues, which were successfully negotiated; and the proceeds of these loans relieved the liabilities on matured treasury bills and current obligations. In 1895 the credit of the Australasian colonies was fully re-established in London.

New South Wales.—In 1892 and 1893 the Treasury had authority to issue £3,000,000 of 4 per cent. funded stock at a minimum price of par. Up to the 30th June, 1900, £2,549,350 had been disposed of, leaving stock to the amount of £450,650 yet to be raised, the cost of the issue being practically nil.

The Loan Acts 58 Vic. No. 14, 59 Vic. No. 6, and 60 Vic. No. 32, passed in 1894, 1895, and 1896 respectively, provided for the establishment of other local stocks The stocks under the first-mentioned Act are known as New South Wales 1924 stock and Funded Stock, the latter running *pari passu* with the stock floated under 56 Vic. No. 1, the amounts outstanding on 30th June, 1900, being £198,065 and £863,947 respectively; the stocks under the 1895 Act are known as New South Wales 1925 Stock and Funded Stock, the latter also being

subject to the same conditions as that floated under 56 Vic. No. 1 (Funded Stock Act of 1892). The amounts outstanding on the 30th June, 1900, were £222,255 and £1,332,945 respectively. The stocks under the 1896 Act are known as New South Wales 1927 Stock and Funded Stock, and are subject to conditions similar to those imposed in respect of the issues under the 1894 and 1895 Acts. Up to the 30th June, 1900, sales of 1927 stock had been effected to the extent of £1,262,757. The rate of interest on the stock is 3 per cent., and the date of maturity, 1912. The only expense attached to the issues was a small amount for brokerage. Provision has been made for sinking funds to liquidate certain portions of the loans expended on works of an unproductive character.

The Loan Act of 1899 gave authority for the local issue of £500,000 inscribed stock at 3 per cent., and maturing in 1919, for the purpose of making advances to settlers. Of this stock, £220,050 were issued to the 30th June, 1900. As in the case of the 4 per cent. funded stock, the only expense in connection with the later local issues of funded and inscribed stock was a small amount of brokerage.

In October, 1893, an inscribed stock loan of £2,500,000 was floated in London, the rate of interest being 4 per cent., and the currency forty years. The minimum price was fixed at 98¼, and the average price realised was £100 11s. 10½d. The rate paid by the Government, allowing for redemption at par on maturity, was £4 3s. 0¼d., while the return to investors was £4 1s. 8½d.

During 1894 several small 5 per cent. loans matured, amounting in the aggregate to £832,000. In September of that year a 3½ per cent. covering loan was successfully issued, the average price realised on the gross proceeds being £101 15s., which is reduced to £99 13s. 6d. if allowance be made for accrued interest and charges. The rate paid by the Government is £3 10s. 11d. per cent., and the interest yielded to investors, £3 9s. 4¼d. The loan was subscribed over five-fold, the amount tendered being £4,208,000.

In October, 1895, an inscribed stock loan for £4,000,000 was floated, the rate of interest being 3 per cent., and the currency forty years. The minimum price was fixed at 94, and the gross proceeds averaged £96 18s. 3d. No further loans were placed on the London market until January, 1898, when a loan of £1,500,000, bearing interest at 3 per cent., with a minimum of 99, was successfully floated, the gross proceeds being £1,506,269.

In 1895 authority was given to issue treasury bills to the amount of £1,174,700 to cover the accumulated deficiencies in revenue on the 30th June of that year. The rate of interest allowed is 3 per cent., and a sum of £150,000 is set aside annually for the repayment of the debt, together with the treasury bills issued under the Act of 1889.

Victoria.—An inscribed stock loan of £2,107,000 was floated in London in October, 1893, the rate of interest being 4 per cent., and the date of maturity between 1911 and 1926, at the option of the

Government on due notice being given. A 3 per cent. inscribed stock loan of £1,600,000 was floated in London in February, 1899, the minimum price fixed being £95. The gross proceeds amounted to £1,522,835, and the net proceeds to £1,491,355, or to £93 4s. 2d. per £100. The date of maturity is from 1929 to 1949. Four per cent. debentures were also disposed of locally from March, 1895, to June, 1900, to the amount of £746,795.

During 1899 an Act was passed providing for the conversion of the 4 per cent. stocks on the Melbourne register into a 3 per cent. stock. The amount of 4 per cent. stock sold from January, 1895, to June, 1900, was £249,130, holders of which have availed themselves of the privilege of conversion. The amount of new 3 per cent. stock sold under the Conversion Act to 30th June, 1900, was £2,290,482.

An issue of 4 per cent. treasury bills in aid of revenue to the amount of £1,250,000 was authorised in 1893; in 1898, however, the amount was reduced to £250,000. The amount sold to 30th June, 1900, was £250,000.

In September, 1896, authority was given for the issue of £375,000 treasury bills for public works and services. The amount sold to the 30th June, 1900, was £300,000, bearing interest at 3½ per cent., and repayable in annual instalments of £25,000 each, the first payment having been made on the 1st January, 1900. The total amount of treasury bills outstanding under this Act on the 30th June, 1900, was £275,000.

A further issue of £1,000,000 treasury bills was authorised in December, 1898, and, to the 30th June, 1900, bills to the amount of £250,000 were sold locally at 3½ per cent. interest, and to the amount of £500,000 at 4 per cent interest in London. The total amount of treasury bills outstanding on 30th June, 1900, was, therefore, £1,300,000.

Queensland, in January, 1893, placed a 3½ per cent. loan of £1,182,400 on the London market, the average price obtained being £88 16s. 4d. The charges were heavier than usual, as the loan was underwritten at the rate of 1 per cent.

In June, 1895, another 3½ per cent. loan for £1,250,000, with a currency of fifty years, was placed on the market. The gross price obtained was £101 12s. 7d., and deducting accrued interest the Government received about £100 0s. 2d. In addition, stock to the amount of £750,000 was sold locally, the net proceeds being £743,750, or £99 0s. 4d. per £100.

In June, 1897, a 3 per cent. loan for £1,500,000, repayable in 1947, was floated in London, the average price realised being £97 18s. 3d. Local sales of 3 per cent. stock were also negotiated during the year, the total issued being £124,480, which was sold at the average price obtained in London.

Another class of stock was authorised in 1895, viz., Government Savings Bank Stock. The object of the establishment of this class of security was to enable depositors of over £200 to earn interest on such

excess. On the 30th June, 1900, the amount outstanding was £1,066,090, of which £979,530 is bearing interest at 3½ per cent., and £86,560 at 3 per cent.

During 1893 three issues of treasury bills were placed locally, viz., £22,500 in January, £5,000 in April, and £11,000 in December. The rate of interest was 4 per cent., and the bills have been redeemed. In January, 1894, bills to the amount of £1,000 were also disposed of locally, the rate being the same as for the previous issues, and the date of redemption, 1903. Bills to the amount of £286,000, which were issued during 1897-8, under the 1893 Act, have been purchased with the proceeds of the Savings Bank Stock, and the only treasury bills outstanding on the 30th June, 1900, were those for £1,000 mentioned above.

South Australia.—In 1893 a small loan of £125,000, being portion of the 1890 loan of £1,532,900, was floated in London. The rate of interest is 3½ per cent., and the loan is redeemable in 1939. An instalment of the £1,013,279 loan of 1897 was placed in Adelaide in February, 1894. The amount of the issue was £200,000, the price realised per £100 being 92. The rate of interest is 3½ per cent. In June, 1895, a further issue of £311,000 was floated in Adelaide. In February, 1895, a loan of £809,500 was issued in London, bearing interest at 3 per cent., and redeemable in 1926. The net proceeds, after allowing for charges and accrued interest, amounted to £800,406, or £95 6s. 10d. per cent. In May, 1897, the first of a number of loans under the "Consolidated Stock Act" was floated in London, amounting to £500,000. Further issues took place in Adelaide for £295,845 and £606,800, in London and Adelaide, for £1,500,000, and in Adelaide, for £219,075. Of the last issue, £36,000 were sold at par, on condition of being placed on the London Register, while the balance realised £98 17s. 3d. per cent. The first issue of £500,000 was sold for £95 10s.; the £606,800, for £98 2s., and the £1,500,000, for £97 13s. 5d. per cent. The total issues under the "Consolidated Stock Act" amounted to £3,151,710. All these loans bear interest at the rate of 3 per cent., and mature in 1916. On the 5th April, 1900, an issue of £1,000,000 at 3 per cent. was floated in London, being part of the loan authorised under the "Public Purposes Loan Act of 1898," the minimum price being fixed at 94½. The net proceeds, after allowing for charges, amounted to £92 3s. 1½d. per £100.

In June, 1892, treasury bills were issued to the amount of £349,225 with interest at the rate of £4 11s. 3d. per cent., and payable in two years, and in March and July, 1893, further issues of £250,000 each were made bearing the same rate, the bills have all been redeemed.

Western Australia.—In June, 1894, a loan of £540,000, at 4 per cent., was floated in London at a minimum of 102, the average price realised being £103 6s. 1d. In May, 1895, the colony floated a 3½ per cent. loan of £756,000, having a forty years currency, but redeemable

[illegible] months' notice being given. The minimum pri[illegible] [illegible] the average obtained was £103 1s. 5d., or, deducti[illegible] [illegible] £1 1 9s. 2d.

[illegible] Western Australia, following the example of Ne[illegible] [illegible] South Wales, placed on the market a 3 per cen[illegible] [illegible], having a currency until 1935, but redeemable fro[illegible] [illegible] months' notice being given. A sinking fund is to b[illegible] [illegible] connection with this loan, commencing three years afte[illegible] [illegible] contribution being 1 per cent. per annum. The gro[illegible] [illegible] was £100 16s. 8d., and the accrued interest amounte[illegible] [illegible] so that the Government obtained £100 9s. 2d. Thi[illegible] [illegible] loan yet floated by any of the Australasian colonies.

[illegible] 1897, an issue of £1,000,000 was floated in London, the [illegible] price being fixed at 95, and the rate of interest 3 per cent. [illegible] is redeemable in 1935, and the net proceeds per £100, after [illegible] for charges and accrued interest, amounted to £93 8s. 11d.

In January, 1898, an issue of £1,000,000 was placed in London, [illegible] the first instalment under the Coolgardie Gold-fields Water Supply [illegible] Act, the minimum price being fixed at £95, and the rate of interest [illegible] per cent. For this applications to the amount of £2,891,250 were [illegible]. The loan matures in 1927, and the net proceeds were £94 15s. 3d per £100.

In July, 1898, a further issue of £1,000,000 was floated in London, being the second instalment under the Loans Act of 1896, the minimum price being fixed at £94, and the rate of interest 3 per cent. At the public tendering only £550,000 were offered, which brought an average price of £94 [illegible]. The balance was sold afterwards at the minimum, which brought the average down to £94 1s. 10d. per cent. The loan is redeemable in 1935, and the net proceeds per £100 amounted to £[illegible] [illegible].

[illegible] £1,000,000 was floated in London

1895, a 3½ per cent. loan of £750,000 was floated, redeemable in 1940, or from 1920 on 12 months' notice being given. The price realised was £98 6s 1d.

In 1895 authority was given for the issue of £250,000 "local inscribed stock" to cover deficiencies in revenue and in 1896 and 1897 further sums of £250,000 in each year, and a sum of £100,000 in 1898 were authorised. Prior to the passing of the Appropriation Act of 1899 the whole of the local inscribed stock hitherto raised in the Colony was placed in the Treasury books to an account for stock raised temporarily in aid of Consolidated Revenue; but as the amount raised was far in excess of revenue requirements, and was largely being used to meet expenditure on loans and public works accounts, which had not otherwise been provided for, a transfer of the whole of the local inscribed stock then issued, and maturing subsequently to the year 1900, was effected by that enactment, and was marked as an addition to the funded debt of the Colony. The amount so treated was £510,747, leaving a sum outstanding on the 31st December, 1899, of £91,727, of which £36,120 is earning 3½ per cent., and £55,607 returning 3 per cent., repayable in 1900.

During 1894, treasury bills to the amount of £96,900 were negotiated in the colony, viz., £40,500 at 4 per cent. and £56,400 at 4½ per cent., the bills having a currency until 1899 and 1900 respectively. The total amount of treasury bills floated was £215,000, and £50,000 were outstanding on 31st December, 1899. Of these, £46,900 are bearing interest at 4½ per cent., and £3,100 at 4 per cent. The bills are redeemable in 1900.

New Zealand. Under the amending Consolidation Act of 1884, short-dated debentures are issued pending the sale of inscribed stock under the Act of 1877. In May, 1895, New Zealand placed a loan for £1,500,000 on the market. With the exception of some New South Wales treasury bills, this was the first 3 per cent. loan floated by any of the Australasian colonies. The loan has a currency of fifty years, and the minimum price was fixed at 90. The average gross price obtained was £94 8s. 9d., so that, after deducting accrued interest, the Government obtained £93 14s. 6d.

In February, 1899, a further issue of £1,000,000 was placed in London, the minimum price being fixed at £96, and the rate of interest 3 per cent. For this stock applications to the amount of £3,027,500 were received. The loan is redeemable in 1945, and the average price secured was £96 11s per cent.

The amount of treasury bills outstanding on the 31st March, 1899, was £710,000, the issue during the ensuing twelve months amounted to £930,000, while bills representing £940,000 were paid off, leaving the amount outstanding on the 31st March, 1900, at £700,000. As, however, allowance is made for these at the end of the financial year when carrying forward the balance of the Revenue Account, the liability is practically wiped out.

The particulars of the latest issues of the Funded Debts negotiated in London for which particulars are available are as follow :—

State.	Year of Issue.	Year of Maturity.	Nominal—		Net Proceeds, less charges and accrued Interest.		Effective annual Interest per £100 sterling, paid by Government.	
			Interest.	Amount of Loan.	Total.	Per cent.	Nominal Interest on net Proceeds.	Rate paid, allowing for redemption at par on maturity.
			per cent.	£	£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
New South Wales...	1893	1933	4	2,500,000	2,440,549	97·62	4 2 9½	4 3 0½
,,	1894	1918	3½	832,000	829,551	99·70	3 10 10	3 10 11
,,	1895	1935	3	4,000,000	3,804,573	95·14	3 3 6½	3 4 3½
,,	1899	1935	3	1,500,000	1,479,746	98·65	3 1 3½	3 1 6
Victoria.....	1892	1921–26	3½	2,000,000	1,810,656	90·53	3 18 0	3 19 8½
,,	1893	1911–20	4	2,107,000	1,980,733	94·01	4 5 1½	4 6 0
,,	1899	1920–49	3	1,600,000	1,491,355	93·21	3 4 4	3 5 7
Queensland	1893	1930	2½	1,182,400	1,014,102	85·77	4 2 4	4 4 4½
,,	1895	1945	3½	1,250,000	1,230,274	98·42	3 11 9	3 11 10½
,, ...	1896	1947	3	1,500,000	1,434,122	95·61	3 3 2½	3 3 7½
South Australia ...	1893–4	1939	3½	1,532,000	1,417,457	92·47	3 16 4½	3 17 0
,, ..	1893–4	1939	3½	513,200	497,052	90·85	3 12 11	3 13 2½
,,	1896	1926	3	839,500	800,406	95·34	3 3 5	3 4 5½
,,	1897	1916	3	500,000	480,246	96·05	3 2 11½	3 5 4½
,, ..	1899	1916	3	1,500,000	1,390,084	92·67	3 5 2½	3 10 2½
,,	1900		3	1,000,000	*	*	*	*
Western Australia	1892	1911–31	4	400,000	393,211	98·30	4 2 2½	4 2 6½
,,	1894	1911–31	4	540,000	544,804	100·92	4 0 0½	4 0 0
,,	1895	1915–35	3½	750,000	760,934	101·40	3 9 7	3 9 5
,,	1896	1915–35	3	750,000	744,542	99·27	3 0 10½	3 1 0
,,	1897	1915–35	3	1,000,000	934,465	93·45	3 4 8½	3 5 2½
,,	1898	1927	3	1,000,000	947,610	94·76	3 3 4	3 5 1
,,	1898	1915–35	3	1,000,000	919,048	91·64	3 5 8	3 7 8
,,	1900	*	3	1,000,000	*	*	*	*
Tasmania ..	1893	1920–40	4	1,000,000	994,012	99·40	4 1 2½	4 1 3
,,	1895	1920–40	3½	750,000	737,308	98·31	3 11 10	3 12 0
New Zealand	1895	1945	3	1,500,000	1,394,117	92·94	3 5 0½	3 5 9½
,,	1899	1945	3	1,000,000	*	*	*	*

* Not yet brought to account.

The treasury bills outstanding on the 30th June, 1900, were issued to cover deficiencies in revenue, with the exception of £1,504,000 in New South Wales, of which a sum of £4,000 is overdue, and £1,050,000 in Victoria, and £1,800,000 in Western Australia. Local inscribed stock to the amount of £591,484, outstanding in Tasmania, was also partly required for public works. The expenses incurred in these issues were practically nil, as the bills were sold at par, and in some cases even at a premium. Particulars of the cost of treasury bills negotiated prior to 1896 will be found in previous editions of this work.

Expenditure from Loans.

In the foregoing pages the chief points dwelt upon have been the amount of the public indebtedness and the credit enjoyed by each colony as tested by the selling price of its loans. Before closing this chapter it would be well to consider for what purpose the debts were incurred. The services upon which the proceeds of the public loans were expended are various, but the bulk of the expenditure may be placed to the account of the construction of railways, water supply and sewerage, and electric telegraphs. In the early stages of Australasian borrowing the expenditure was moderate, loans being difficult to raise and interest high; but latterly, as the conditions under which loans could be contracted became favourable, especially since 1881, few of the colonies have set any bounds to their requirements. It was a repetition of the old experience—the opportunity engendered the desire, and the open purses of the investors tempted the colonies to undue borrowing and lavish expenditure. What is termed a "vigorous public works policy" was the order of the day, and works were pressed forward which under other circumstances would either not have been undertaken, or have been held back until the growth of population warranted their construction. The plethora of money has been harmful in many ways, the most apparent being the construction of not a few branch railways, in outlying and sparsely-settled districts, which do not pay even their working expenses. But when every allowance is made for unwise or improvident expenditure, it will be found that by far the larger portion of the proceeds of loans has been well expended. In some instances it will be years, taking a most hopeful view of the situation, before many of the revenue producing works will yield a sum sufficient to pay working expenses and interest; nevertheless, a practical consideration of the conditions which surround Australasian settlement will demonstrate that in some instances the construction of these works was justifiable, for apart from the consideration that they will ultimately be self-supporting, they have already materially assisted in developing the country's resources, and have largely enhanced the value of the public estate. Whether their cost

...rtly represented loans to local bodies. The expenditure of ...ce during the last five years is given in the following table :—

State	1895-6.	1896-7.	1897-8	1898-9.	1899-1900.
	£	£	£	£	£
...th Wales .	1,279,098	1,477,318	1,644,743	2,032,634	2,211,581
... .	218,706	276,674	462,094	775,841	1,031,603
... .	592,158	1,148,341	937,066	1,054,787	1,182,668
...tralia .	533,157	358,658	495,193	581,777	602,650
...stralia .	650,708	2,609,668	1,896,145	1,032,660	917,408
... .	113,278	81,801	79,602	130,257	176,257
...monwealth	3,387,195	5,952,460	5,514,843	5,607,986	6,122,227
...and	971,855	1,088,316	1,134,651	1,543,111	1,571,604
...stralasia	4,359,050	7,040,776	6,649,494	7,151,097	7,693,831

...total expenditure of the proceeds of loans from the commence-...f borrowing to the end of the financial year 1899-1900 for the ...monwealth colonies was £189,351,459, and for the whole of ...alasia £233,224,783. Of these sums, £150,786,837, or consider-...ver three-fourths, was spent by the Commonwealth colonies, and ...741,827, or nearly three-fourths, by the seven colonies in the con-...ion of railways, water supply and sewerage works, and electric ...aphs, and the balance was expended on services which, though non ...ductive, were claimed by their proposers as being necessary in the ...sts of national development. The expenditure on defence and the ...nts made to meet deficiency in revenue are the exceptions to the rule ...h has governed the expenditure of the proceeds of loan issues. The ...nditure to cover deficiency in revenue has not been large, and is ...ed upon as but a temporary charge on the loan funds, while the ...nditure on defence has been extremely small in all the colonies ...pt New South Wales and New Zealand. The following table shows ...total loan expenditure of each province up to the close of the last ...ncial year :

State.	Expenditure to	Amount spent on works yielding direct Revenue				Other Works and Services.	Total
		Railways.	Water Supply and Sewerage	Electric Telegraphs.	Total.		
		£	£	£	£	£	£
...Wales	30 June, 1900	42,954,714	2,327,011	1,127,740	52,539,867	11,931,878	64,471,745
...ria	30 June, 1900	36,704,189	8,847,642		45,551,831	3,471,411	49,023,242
...aland	30 June, 1900	21,446,417	2,501	1,991,138	23,440,056	10,407,...	33,...
...Australia	30 June, 1900	1,...	4,04...	698,159	15,877,667	5,922,709	21,800,376
...n Australia	30 June, 1900	6,...	724,...	298,...	7,6...	2,...	10,...
...ania	31 Dec., 1899	1,...		124,...	3,327,291	4,...	7,...
...monwealth		127,093,365	23,...	3,...	150,786,837	36,...	189,...
...Zealand	31 Mar., 1900	13,...	848,...	5...	17,...	25,...	43,...
...ralasia		140,...	24,...	4,536,...	168,...	61,...	233,...

In the New Zealand returns old provincial debts contracted prior to 1876, amounting to £11,535,469, have been included under the head "Other works and services," as there is no available record of the services upon which the loans of the old Provisional Governments were expended, except where such was for the construction of railways. The figures given for New South Wales, South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania under the head of "Railways" include loan expenditure on State tramways, but, except in the case of the first-mentioned colony, the amount thus expended is unimportant, as this service in the other provinces is generally in the hands of municipal authorities or private companies.

In the preceding table a large sum has been placed under the head of "Other works and services"; in the following statement this amount has been subdivided and is shown under several heads. In regard to New Zealand, the sum under the heading of "Miscellaneous" also includes the provincial loans prior to 1876; but it is certain that a very large proportion of this miscellaneous expenditure was incurred for war purposes, the cost of suppressing the Maori risings between 1860 and 1870 being charged to loan votes :—

State.	Roads and Bridges, Harbours, &c.,	Defence Works.	Immigration.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	6,296,408	1,356,386	919,163	3,289,951	11,861,878
Victoria	784,473	133,355	..	2,636,585	3,554,413
Queensland	7,201,861	280,982	2,864,627	4,059,805	10,407,275
South Australia	2,747,510	244,073	..	2,937,126	5,928,709
Western Australia	1,578,706	..	23,371	1,197,723	2,799,800
Tasmania	2,387,921	123,854	235,000	1,295,772	4,042,547
Commonwealth	16,086,879	2,138,620	4,042,161	15,396,962	38,564,622
New Zealand	7,837,603	1,003,523	2,147,505	16,029,703	25,918,334
Australasia	23,924,482	3,142,143	6,189,666	32,326,665	64,482,956

In the case of New South Wales the sum of £724,733, which was spent on immigration before the inauguration of the Loan Account, appeared in previous issues of this volume under miscellaneous expenditure · is shown under the proper heading.

The subjoined table shows the expenditure per inhabitant on the basis of the figures given in the table on page 823

State.	Amount spent on Works yielding direct Revenue.									Total.		
	Railways.			Water Supply and Sewerage			Electric Telegraphs			Total.			Other Works and Services					
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
New South Wales	30	18	5	6	17	0	0	16	7	38	12	0	8	13	11	47	5	11
Victoria	31	10	0	7	2	10	.....			38	12	10	3	1	10	41	13	8
Queensland	43	14	10	0	13	10	0	0	7	40	0	3	21	6	6	67	15	0
South Australia	35	18	0	12	11	10	2	12	5	51	2	3	16	1	1	67	3	4
Western Australia	37	4	10	4	1	4	1	10	3	42	16	5	15	14	3	58	10	8
Tasmania	20	17	2				0	13	8	21	10	10	22	5	6	43	14	4
Commonwealth	33	1	5	6	4	10	0	18	7	40	4	10	10	5	10	50	10	8
New Zealand	21	13	9	0	17	1	1	2	7	23	13	5	33	3	5	57	16	10
Australasia	31	7	1	5	6	8	0	19	3	37	9	0	14	6	3	51	15	3

Expenditure by the Government and Local Bodies.

The question of Local Government is dealt with in another chapter. It is well, however, to give here a statement of the total amount which passes through the hands of the general and local governments. The sum can in no sense be taken as the cost of governing the various colonies; as will appear from page 793, this may be taken as £16,952,307 for the six Commonwealth colonies, or £20,465,446 for the whole of Australasia

The total sum expended by the general and local governments of the Commonwealth colonies during the year 1899-1900 was £37,454,398, or £10 1s. 2d. per head, and for Australasia £45,426,329, or £10 2s. 11d. per head. Of these large sums, £28,094,513, or £7 10s. 11d. per inhabitant, was spent by the general governments of the six Commonwealth colonies from their revenues, and £6,122,227, or £1 12s. 11d. per inhabitant, from loans; the local expenditure—exclusive, of course, of a sum equal to the Government endowment—was £3,237,658, or 17s. 4d. per inhabitant. For the seven Australasian colonies the expenditure by the general government from revenue was £33,234,641, or £7 8s. 6d. per inhabitant, and from loans £7,693,831, or £1 14s. 4d. per inhabitant, while the local expenditure, exclusive of government endowment, amounted to £4,497,857, or £1 0s. 1d. per inhabitant.

The following table shows the general, loan, and local expenditure for each colony :—

State.	General Government.		Local Government.	Total.
	From Revenue.	From Loans.		
	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	9,811,402	2,211,581	799,069	12,822,052
Victoria	7,318,945	1,031,663	1,173,039	9,523,647
Queensland	4,540,418	1,182,668	506,137	6,229,223
South Australia	2,936,619	602,650	336,408	3,875,677
Western Australia	2,615,675	917,408	275,993	3,809,076
Tasmania	871,454	176,257	147,012	1,194,723
Commonwealth	28,094,513	6,122,227	3,237,658	37,454,398
New Zealand	5,140,128	1,571,604	1,260,199	7,971,931
Australasia	33,234,641	7,693,831	4,497,857	45,426,329

The expenditure per inhabitant, under the same classification, will be found below. The distribution of the expenditure for New South Wales, between general and local government, is to some extent misleading, as over 40 per cent. of the population live outside the boundaries of the municipalities :—

State.	General Government.						Local Government.			Total		
	From Revenue.			From Loans.								
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
New South Wales	7	4	8	1	12	8	0	11	9	9	9	1
Victoria	6	5	10	0	17	9	1	0	2	8	3	9
Queensland	9	8	3	2	9	6	1	1	0	12	18	3
South Australia	7	18	6	1	12	6	0	18	2	10	9	2
Western Australia	15	5	10	5	7	3	1	2	4	22	5	5
Tasmania	4	17	0	0	19	7	0	16	4	6	12	11
Commonwealth	7	10	11	1	12	11	0	17	4	10	1	2
New Zealand	6	16	6	2	1	9	1	13	5	10	11	8
Australasia	7	8	6	1	14	4	1	0	1	10	2	11

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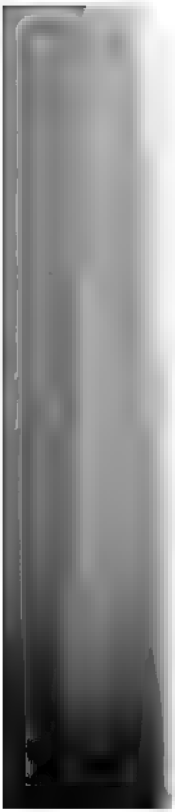

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Government Printer.—1900.

FEB 1 4 1936